FBIS DAILY REPORT

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POLICE TEARGAS PROMILITARY DEMONSTRATION

PY212256 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2216 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] La Plata, 21 Mar (DYN) -- Gendarmerie policemen and troops today intercepted and suppressed a demonstration staged by the group known as Relatives and Friends of People Killed by Subversives (FAMUS). The demonstrators were attempting to reach the Magdalena Military Prison to pay tribute to the convicted former military regime commanders.

According to reports received here, police used tear gas to disperse the demonstrators who were traveling in a motorcade.

Policemen, followed by gendarmerie troops, first requested, and then ordered, the demonstrators to disperse. When the demonstrators failed to heed the order, the suppression began. Apparently, there have been no injuries or arrests.

ARMY GROUP PLANTS EXPLOSIVES AT ECONOMY MINISTRY

PY211942 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1619 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Mar (TELAM) -- The Federal Police have confirmed that at 0130 today a pamphlet thrower explosive went off at 131 Paseo Colon Avenue. The explosion occurred on the inside sidewalk of the Economy Ministry, across from the Libertador Building, where the Army General Staff is headquartered.

The Second Police Precinct, which has jurisdiction in this area, said that the device had been placed in a garbage container belonging to the firm Manliba, and that the explosion shattered windows at the Economy Ministry. The police report adds that the pamphlets disseminated by the blast were signed by a group calling itself the Active Esprit de Corps of the Argentine Army which in a short message said: No to the surrender of the Army that was born in 1810. We shall not surrender in 1987.

Federal Court Judge Nestor Blondi is investigating the incident which he characterized as public intimidation.

POLICE DEFUSE BOMB AT FEDERAL JUDGE'S HOME

PY211950 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1832 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Mar (DYN) -- A powerful bomb was defused early this morning outside the home of Andres Dalessio, chief of the Federal Appellate Court which tried and sentenced former military commanders. The report was confirmed by Dalessio.

BOMB BLAST KILLS WIFE OF BUENOS AIRES LAWYER

PY230009 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1838 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 22 Mar (NA) -- A 53-year-old woman married to a local criminal lawyer died today when a bomb placed on one of the windows of her house in the metropolitan neighborhood of La Paternal exploded.

The explosion occurred at 0740 this morning at 546 Batalla de Pari Street, the residence of criminal lawyer Rodolfo Raul Mora. However, according to reports, Mora had not been engaged in any political activities that would have had a bearing on the incident. [passage omitted]

During brief comments to the press Judge Juan Carlos Cardinalli, who is investigating the case, stated that an investigation will begin "immediately" to establish the motives of the attack which initially "appear to be confusing."

According to neighbors and friends of the family, Rodolfo Mora was not at home when the bomb exploded, and he did not appear later.

Judge Cardinalli said that an effort will be made to locate the husband of the victim to collect further data for the investigation. The judge, however, refused to provide any further details when he was asked whether the neighbors' statements that the lawyer has not been seen at the house for the last 3 days were true.

MILITARY CIRCLES PROMOTING AMNESTY LAW

PY202337 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1827 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Mar (NA) -- The government estimates that approximately 400 officers will be tried for excesses committed during the repression, but it also believes that "there will be fewer" defendants sentenced in the end, a high government source revealed today, adding that the executive branch is not "thinking about" promoting an amnesty law.

However, the source admitted that the Justice Secretariat "has the duty to examine and present to the executive branch all alternatives to the decisions it must make." By this he meant that the Secretariat may include a legal study of an amnesty law among other alternatives.

The source said that amnesty, whether general or partial, was "not even discussed" in last night's meeting in the Olivos presidential residence with Defense Minister Horacio Jaunarena, Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli, and Presidential and Justice Secretaries Carlos Becerra and Ideler Tonelli.

The source stated that the idea of amnesty "is being sponsored" by some sectors close to retired officers. He added that the government thinks that this week and next will bring an "intensive psychological" campaign in favor of amnesty.

The sources revealed that President Alfonsin believes that an amnesty law "would harm the Armed Forces not only internally but also as an institution."

A high-ranking military source told NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS that he believes, however, that "something has to happen (?before) the military men tried for human rights violations are sentenced."

The high-ranking military officer also explained that he believes that the possibility of conducting a nonbinding (no vinculante) popular consultation to determine citizens' opinions about declaring amnesty only for those mid-level officers accused of human rights violations, could be considered. However, one of the participants in last night's meeting categorically denied that the subject was discussed. He added: "We spoke mainly about the trials and General Malagamba, who was acquitted."

"This acquittal has not been given much consideration, however it shows the Armed Forces officers that justice is impartial and free of prejudice" he said. He added that the witnesses in Malagamba's case did not substantiate their claims. He said that the government is determined to comply with Alfonsin's three directives: establish a difference among those who had the political responsibility for giving orders, those who committed the excesses, and those who complied with their orders.

Meanwhile, a political party source revealed that the government will not let anyone "step out of line" regarding the trials of the military officers, and reported that the possibility of pressing charges against executive members of the Officers' Club for "promoting crimes" is being considered.

Justice Secretary Ideler Tonelli also endorsed this position by stating that if the Officers' Club were to make any officer convicted of these crimes an honorary member, it would be promoting crimes; that is, it would be carrying out an action punishable under the Penal Code.

The party source said that the Officers' Club would be "stepping out of line" if it made that decision and noted that actions of this nature "will not be permitted."

Regarding the number of officers brought to justice or to be brought to justice for excesses committed in repressive actions, the party spokesman said that the government estimates that 400 officers will be brought to trial -- there were already 229 as of 11 March. He estimated, however, that the final number of sentenced officers "will be much lower."

The spokesman also noted that the case involving the I Corps and the case known as Margarita Belen are yet to begin.

In this regard, a senior officer said that the atmosphere prevailing among mid-level officers can be described as "one in which the temperature is slowly rising."

Drawing a parallel between this situation and that of a patient, the officer said that in military circles "we can only prescribe ineffective remedies," it is the doctor, that is, the government who must prescribe the antibiotics or decide whether or not to operate, thus clearly alluding to a possible amnesty law.

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT VIEWS 'ON-LENDING LOANS'

PY212051 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 21 Mar 87 p 3

[Text] (DYN) -- Central Bank President Jose Luis Machinea yesterday voiced optimism over reaching an agreement on the foreign debt with creditor banks "in the short run."

He explained that during this past week "we made significant progress," adding that while he held meetings with U.S. economic officials, Treasury Secretary Mario Brodershohn conducted negotiations in New York.

Machinea stressed that Argentina "will not negotiate" certain issues such as interest rates, a reduction of the "spreads" and the request for 2.1 billion dollars worth of "fresh funds."

When asked about the debt's amortization and grace periods, the official refused to make any comments because "since we are in the middle of negotiations it could cause irritation."

Machinea said that banks want to implement more "on-lending loans (which they can directly control from abroad) and a capitalization system, which we cannot adapt to." In this respect, he ratified that Argentina aims at implementing a capitalization system whereby for each capitalized dollar, one dollar has to be invested.

As for on-lending loans he explained that "we have repeated that they (on-lending loans) produce a negative effect in our monetary policy. We want a minimum of lending or nothing."

FRG PRESIDENT WEIZSAECKER CONCLUDES VISIT

PY201424 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1325 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Mar (TELAM) -- FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker left the Aeroparque Metropolitan Airport at 0950 [1250 GMT] today. The FRG president left for the Ezeiza International Airport where he will board a plane that will take him to Bolivia, the second stopover of his trip.

Argentine President Raul Alfonsin and his wife Maria Lorenza Barreneche said farewell to the FRG president and his wife after a ceremony which included the playing of the Argentine and FRG national anthems, the appropriate military honors for the departing president, and the usual 21-gun salute. The ceremony was also attended by ministers and other government officials.

COMMUNIST CHIEF FAVA ON MEETING WITH GORBACHEV

PY131546 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1500 GMT 11 Mar 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 11 Mar (NA) -- Secretary General of the Argentine Communist Party (PCA), Athos Fava, has told his CPSU counterpart Mikhail Gorbachev that "the dominant circle that holds the real power in Argentina" is comprised of local monopoly groups and the local oligarchy, and that the transnationals defend their "essential interests" through the Raul Alfonsin government.

Fava's remarks are carried in this week's issue of the PCA official newspaper QUE PASA, which reported on the meeting Fava held with Gorbachev on 3 March in Moscow. The article by Francisco Alvarez reports that Fava mentioned "the insufficient recognition of the significance of the Cuban revolution, and the importance of the rehabilitation of the figure of Ernesto Che Guevara." Gorbachev referred to Che Guevara as "an extraordinary revolutionary of crystal-clear personality." Fava then talked about "the negative consequences of Stalinisn on our party, and the formal character of our debate regarding the 20th CPSU Congress (in which Nikita Khrushchev criticized the government of Joseph Stalin), which was viewed as a matter of exclusive concern of the Soviets." The PCA secretary general added that the "dogmatism" in the PCA-CPSU relations "did not help the Soviets and caused us serious damage, affecting our prestige and credibility."

In conclusion, Gorbachev explained that "it is impossible for the Soviets to give advice on how the PCA should act or for the PCA to advise the CPSU; each party knows its situation better than anyone else."

FOREIGN DEBT PAYMENT TIED TO RECEIVING NEW LOANS

PY210200 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2155 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] La Paz, 20 Mar (EFE) -- Finance Minister Juan Cariaga affirmed today that Bolivia will not follow Argentina's and Brazil's lead in postponing the payment of the foreign debt.

Brazil declared a unilateral moratorium on its debt with the foreign private banks as did Argentina on its debt with the Paris Club.

The Bolivian finance minister reasserted that Bolivia will meet all its commitments because "it will receive resources in excess of those needed to service its foreign debt; foreign resources that the economy will need for many more years."

Commitments with the private banks will be fulfilled, despite the fact that these creditors were unwilling to provide new resources, says the Bolivian finance minister.

The strategy for renegotiation of the country's foreign debt will be keyed to fulfilling obligations with those creditors who are willing to grant new loans to Bolivia, the government announced.

Minister Cariaga said: "Bolivia has not found the private banks willing to receive requests for new loans; therefore, it will try to renegotiate its burdensome debt of $680 million in terms that will not affect the country's interests."

The Bolivian Government has already solved the problem of its debt with international organizations, which amounts to $873 million. Now, it will have to conclude negotiations of its bilateral debts of $1,636,000,000 most of them with Argentina and Brazil, countries with which the Bolivian Government will start talks by the end of this month.

FRG PRESIDENT WEIZSAECKER ARRIVES FOR VISIT 20 MAR

Paz Welcomes Guest

PY201758 Paris AFP in Spanish 1747 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] La Paz, 20 Mar (AFP) -- FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker and his entourage arrived at the local airport at 1300 local time (1700 GMT) today. Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro, ministers of state, ambassadors and military officers welcomed the FRG president at the airport.

An Army Military School battalion paid appropriate military honors to the distinguished guest along with a 21-gun salute.

Cooperation Discussed

PY211456 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The FRG Government will cooperate economically with Bolivia's 3-year plan against drug trafficking, which was prepared by the national government. This is the first resolution adopted by Bolivia following the meeting between FRG President Richard von Weizsaecker and Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro.

The report on this resolution was released at Government Palace when the two presidents concluded their first meeting. The official spokesmen of the two governments gave a news conference to explain all subjects discussed by the two presidents.

Bolivian Information Minister Herman Antelo made the following comment at the beginning of the news conference with national and foreign reporters who are covering the FRG president's visit:

[Begin Antelo recording] The entire FRG delegation, headed by the president and the cooperation minister, attended the meeting. Also present were the Bolivian ministers of foreign affairs, planning, defense, and transport, as well as several secretaries. President Paz Estenssoro and some ministers outlined matters in which the Bolivian Government is most interested and on which the FRG Government can cooperate. These include the 3-year antidrug campaign, investments in the country, and all the social emergency fund programs. The discussions were general in scope. There was no mention of figures or details, which will be discussed in tomorrow's meetings. This meeting only served to list the subjects of interest to the country. [end recording]

FRG spokesman (Herberg Ploeger) explained that his country's president is visiting Argentina, Bolivia, and Guatemala, to bring a message from the FRG people, and that the decision to cooperate especially with Bolivia, has been conveyed to President Paz Estenssoro. He added that due to the remarkable struggle against drug trafficking in Bolivia, the FRG will cooperate with the 3-year plan.

[Begin (Ploeger) recording in German with Spanish translation] First of all, the FRG president has reported that the FRG is willing to contribute, perhaps beginning next year, to the 3-year plan against drug trafficking. The FRG president has stated that the consumption of drugs and drug addiction is a scourge for all mankind, and for this reason, all mankind, all peoples, must fight together against drug trafficking. [end recording]

The FRG president's spokesman concluded by saying that the forthcoming talks between the Bolivian and FRG Governments will focus mainly on the amount with which the FRG Government will cooperate with Bolivia, and that no major results can yet be predicted. He added, however, that the presence of the FRG economic cooperation minister in Bolivia is highly significant for the signing of agreements between the two countries.

Weizsaecker on Increased Aid

LD221034 Hamburg DPA in German 0022 German 22 Mar 87

[Text] La Paz (DPA) -- West German President Richard von Weizsaecker has paid tribute to the determination of Bolivian President Victor Paz Estenssoro to improve the economy and industry of his needy country through fundamental reforms. Weizsaecker, who has been on a state visit to Bolivia since Friday, said at a dinner on Saturday that the Federal Republic will considerably increase financial and technical aid for Bolivia. "Bolivia can continue to reckon on our solidarity," he stressed.

The Federal Republic wants to contribute vigorously through its development policy to the development and expansion of an effective industry and agriculture. He is sure that the conclusion of the investment promotion agreement desired by both sides will give a sustained stimulus to the readiness of German industry to invest in Bolivia.

He is also concerned about the oppressive foreign debts which are a heavy burden on Bolivia and many other countries in Latin America, the president added. Creditor and debtor countries must cooperate in overcoming them. He said that the measures introduced by the Bolivian Government must not make the poor poorer. "Democracy can only flourish in the long term if it is possible to overcome hunger and poverty," the president stressed.

Development Aid To Double

LD230934 Hamburg DPA in German 0231 GMT 23 Mar 87

[Text] La Paz (DPA) -- The Federal Republic is to nearly double its development aid for Bolivia during the current year compared with 1986. Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker said in his address before the Bolivian Congress on Monday that the aid, which was raised to DM50 million last year, will be increased to DM91 million, of which DM21 million will not have to be repaid. In addition, the Federal Government will make this year's financial aid available on much more favorable terms than before.

According to Weizsaecker, these promises are to be turned into specific development projects during the negotiations planned for the summer. Studies will be made as to whether DM30 million of the DM70 million in financial aid -- the remainder is technical aid -- could be made available for the lead, silver, and tin works at Karachipampa near Potosi. In this way the Federal Government is seeking to help modernize Bolivian mining and at the same time alleviate human poverty. The works, built with German development aid, has so far been working only at 30 percent capacity since the available deposits have not yet been tapped.

The Federal President pointed out that Bolivia's foreign debts are running $4.4 billion, and thus at seven times the annual export revenue which, in view of its mining crisis, are hitting the country especially hard. This mountain of debts is undermining internal stability and confidence in the Latin American countries. Therefore the creditor and debtor countries, together with the banks and financial organizations, will have to look for long-term solutions. The Federal Republic will continue to help, whenever and wherever possible. Thus a noticeable easing of financial pressures is to be obtained for Bolivia at the current rescheduling of debts negotiations.

RECENT UMOPAR ANTIDRUG OPERATIONS REPORTED

PY171535 La Paz La Red Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] The operations in the struggle against drug trafficking are continuing. The National Directorate for the Control of Dangerous Substances said in it last report that it has confiscated 42.45 kg of cocaine in Chapare. In Cochabamba, UMOPAR [Mobil Units for Patrolling Rural Areas] confiscated 600 grams of cocaine base in Valle Hermoso and destroyed five cocaine factories. There were no arrests. In Sinahota, the units confiscated 8.4 kg of cocaine base, but there were no arrests. In Eterasama, the units confiscated 15.7 kg of cocaine base, 33.4 kg of sodium bicarbonate, 14 plastic containers of sulphuric acid and 10 bags of lime. Prosecutors Carlos Valenzuela, Alvaro Meru Antezana and Walter participated in this operation. At the Brazilian border in Santa Cruz, narcotics agents cooperating with the Bolivian Navy arrested Gustavo Villegas Pinto who was carrying 11.35 kg of cocaine. In Cobija, a box addressed to (Isabel Monato) containing three bags of cocaine weighing 3 kg each was found. The drug was weighed in the presence of district prosecutor (Hernig de Organa).

Narcotics officials reported that the antidrug operations are going to continue in the next few hours.

SARNEY INTERVIEWED ON DOMESTIC GLOBAL ISSUES

PM201425 Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 11, 13-19 Mar 87 (Signed to Press 12 Mar 87) pp 12-14

[Vadim Polyakovskiy reportage: "Brazil: Two Countries in One"]

[Excerpts] Rio de Janeiro-Brasilia-Moscow -- [Passage omitted] President Jose Sarney kindly received ZA RUBEZHOM's special correspondent in the Planalto Palace. [passage omitted]

Thick, short, with a magnificent mustache, and dressed in his habitual double-breasted jacket, Sarney declared at the start of the conversation:

"To say that Brazil is a country with problems is to say nothing. It is a country with tremendous problems. We have a monstrous foreign debt, a shortage of capital investments, a budget deficit to the tune of 5 percent of the gross national product, acute conflicts over land ownership... Decisive measures are needed to instill order. We have already partly taken them. But not everything is proceeding smoothly..."

I asked the president what he considers most urgent for himself.

"That is a question connected with the democratization process. I would formulate it like this: How to make Brazil governable, ensure the stability of the transitional period, and strengthen civilian power? We believe that for this it is necessary, above all, to secure an improvement in the economy."

I asked a question about the foreign debt.

"This is the number one problem not only for Brazil but for all Latin America. In our opinion, it should be solved through joint efforts. An example is the creation of the Cartagena Group (an organization of the 11 Latin American countries most in debt -- V.P.). Of course, each country has its own special features, but the Cartagena Group ensures the possibility of formulating common positions and makes it possible to help one another. We are convinced that Brazil cannot repay its debts at the price of an economic slump, increased unemployment, and greater hunger and poverty among its people."

It followed from Jose Sarney's subsequent words that his government has not ruled out the possibility of suspending the payment of interest on long-term debts to private banks (this amounts to $70 billion out of a total of $109 billion). Here the president did not hide the fact that such a decision entails a certain risk. Nevertheless, as is known, it was adopted this February: In a radic and television address to the country J. Sarney announced the introduction of a "technical moratorium." What does this mean? If private creditors agree to the new payment terms proposed by Brazil, they will be paid $5.6 billion (but not in the first quarter of this year, when the term expires, but in several years' time). If they refuse, they have only themselves to blame. Incidentally, they have long since made their superprofits from the high interest on the capital loaned by them...

I asked how the president assesses Brazil's role in the world today and tomorrow.

"Our foreign policy has always been characterized by adherence to the principle of noninterference, by the search for peaceful ways to resolve conflict situations, and by defense of peace. Currently, Latin America is the priority field in Brazil's foreign policy. We spare no effort for rapprochement with our closest neighbors, and we have borders with all South American states except Chile and Ecuador. [paragraph continues]

We consider it necessary to try to get Latin America to enter a phase of economic collaboration and closer cooperation. This has given rise, for example, to our concluding an agreement with Argentina and Uruguay."

"Is economic integration envisaged?"

"We are considering it more widely. Latin America has the same problems. This means we must jointly seek ways to solve them. Perhaps Brazil bears the greatest responsibility, for we are the largest country and the richest in terms of natural resources. But we do not want to be an island of plenty in the sea of poverty surrounding us. Our destinies are interlinked, and this is why Brazil acts in the name of strengthening ties -- economic, political, cultural, and so forth -- with its neighbors."

"What aim was Brazil pursuing by submitting to the United Nations the proposal to proclaim the South Atlantic a nuclear-free zone?"

"Lasting peace and world security are the great desire of all mankind. We in Brazil want our continent to be a zone of peace. Our signature is on the Tlatelolco Treaty, which proclaims Latin America a nuclear-free continent. Developing that initiative, we submitted at the last UN General Assembly session a proposal -- incidentally, it met with almost universal approval, and only the United States and a few other countries voted against it -- to create in the South Atlantic a zone of peace and cooperation, a nuclear-free zone free of tension. We have every reason and the authority to make this proposal -- for more than 100 years now Brazil has not held a single armed conflict with its neighbors. We resolve all problems by means of dialogue."

"Could you express your attitude to the USSR's initiatives aimed at creating a nuclear-free world?"

"Brazil invariably advocates ending the arms race and creating a climate of trust and mutual understanding. The path leading to this is not easy, and we consider it our duty to support any initiative that moves in that direction. The day when mankind is rid of the nuclear threat will be a great day."

To conclude the interview, President Jose Sarney returned to internal political problems and declared:

"A great future awaits us. Brazil will enter the 21st century free of all forms of dependence. The country possesses tremendous natural resources for this, and we have an industrious people. They are capable of miracles, particularly if we succeed -- and this is our aim -- in reducing social inequality and improving their living conditions by means of a fairer distribution of national income, the gradual resolution of the problem of land ownership, and the necessary improvement in the health and education systems..." [passage omitted]

SARNEY MEETS PMDB CONGRESSMEN, UK'S BARONESS YOUNG

PY211425 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] President Sarney yesterday hosted a dinner for PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] congressmen at Alvorada Palace. More than 300 PMDB congressmen attended and according to President Sarney their presence reflects support for the government in its efforts to solve the country's domestic and foreign problems.

[Sarney] "I think the support that all Brazil is giving to the government is very important at this moment when we are trying to solve the foreign debt problem, which is rather serious and has great international repercussions. I think this national unity is giving extra strength to the country to solve the difficult problem of the foreign debt."

Referring specifically to the Brazilian foreign debt issue, President Sarney stated that he also discussed this issue with UK Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Baroness Young, who is visiting Brazil.

[Sarney] "I had an opportunity to tell Baroness Young that the foreign debt has two separate aspects: one of which is financial, having to do with the bankers; the other deals with a political aspect, which is much broader, and involves political interests abroad. The foreign debt of a country as large as Brazil must be considered as a political problem of the Western world."

After the meeting yesterday with PMDB congressmen, President Sarney this morning will meet with businessmen of various segments of the Brazilian economy. This meeting will take place in the city of Itatiba, near Sao Apulo. It will basically be an informal meeting.

PMDB GROUP FAVORS LEAVE OF ABSENCE FOR GUIMARAES

PY220115 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 21 Mar 87 p A 5

[Excerpts] Brasilia -- Seventy-year-old Deputy Ulysses Guimaraes (Sao Paulo) does not like the idea that he should, as proposed by some members of his party, request a leave of absence as PMDB president. "My term (as PMDB president) will end, as scheduled, next year," Guimaraes said yesterday at the Chamber of Deputies. He believes he can handle his three posts as PMDB president, president of the Constituent Assembly, and president of the Chamber of Deputies. "As a matter of fact, I am already handling all these posts," he said.

Guimaraes' remarks will cause a momentary setback for the movement within his party that seeks to make him request a leave of absence as PMDB president. After stating all day that Guimaraes should take a leave of absence, PMDB Secretary General Milton Reis (57, Minas Gerais) said at 1930 that the "best solution" would be if Guimaraes agreed to "redistribute" his tasks and powers to other PMDB leaders, but without stepping down as PMDB president. [passage omitted]

The election of Mario Covas as PMDB leader in the Constituent Assembly on 19 March brought about the movement in favor of a temporary leave of absence for Guimaraes as PMDB president. The movement for a leave of absence, or a compromising solution such as a decentralization of the decisionmaking powers, is being coordinated by Deputy Milton Reis, Senator Mario Covas, Senator Jose Richa (Parana State), and by Senator Affonso Camargo. FOLHA has learned that Senator Fernando Henrique Cardoso (Sao Paulo) also views the proposal favorably.

According to 57-year-old Deputy Roberto Rollemberg, the coordinator of the Sao Paulo bloc of PMDB deputies, Guimaraes' departure "is already favored by the whole party." Rollemberg's remarks also reflect the position of Sao Paulo Governor Orestes Quercia. [passage omitted]

DAS DISCOVERS PLAN TO KILL U.S. AMBASSADOR

PA211634 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Following the rescue of Blanca Vargas de Garcia [not further identified], who was kidnapped early this year in Bogota, the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] discovered that the M-19 cell that held her captive had also mapped out a plan to kill U.S. Ambassador to Colombia Charles Gillespie.

The DAS added that the kidnappers are part of the M-19 group that tried to kill Government Minister Jaime Castro last year. Hernando Corral has the details:

[Begin recording] [Corral] The DAS today freed Blanca Vargas de Garcia, who was kidnapped on 5 December [date as heard] in Bogota. As a result of this action, the DAS arrested several members of an M-19 group charged with participating in a foiled attack against former Government Minister Jaime Castro Castro on 17 June, and of killing police Colonel Jose Agustin Ramos Rodriguez on 11 December.

The DAS reported that the M-19 group called the Special Urban Commandos, CUES, [Comandos Urbanos Especiales] was planning to attack U.S. Ambassador to Colombia Charles Gillespie.

William Mejia, who heads the guerrilla commando, and his companion, Gloria Juliet Munoz, managed to escape the police action.

Blanca Vargas de Garcia said that only at the last moment did she find out that her kidnappers belonged to that guerrilla organization.

[Vargas de Garcia] During the first month I was kept in a very small area. The space was enlarged later on so that I could stretch out and stand up. I was taken out for 5 minutes or so to do some exercise, and whenever possible, I was taken to the bathroom, so I could take a bath. I was very afraid for my life, because you never know when there could be a change in reaction.

[Corral] Did you pay any amount of money?

[Vargas de Garcia] No, no, no. Thank God we did not pay anything. [end recording]

FEDECAFE LEADER BOWS OUT OF 21 MAR COFFEE MEETING

PA221254 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0107 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Bogota, 20 Mar (EFE) -- Colombia will not attend the coffee meeting in Managua tomorrow, which is being held with the goal of creating a Latin American "bloc" to establish export quotas.

Invitations to the meeting, called by Nicaragua in view of the failure of the London negotiations in early March, were sent out to the Central American economy ministers and the presidents of the coffee institutes of Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico.

Jorge Cardenas, president of the National Federation of Colombian Coffee Growers [FEDECAFE], after contacting the government as well as other coffee-producing countries, announced that he will not attend the Managua meeting because "there are still many problems that have not been cleared up." The coffee-grower leader noted, however, that the Managua meeting "is a positive effort by Nicaragua and the Central American countries to try to resolve the differences that arose at the International Coffee Organization (OIC) meeting in London." However, "conditions still do not exist for the coffee-producing countries to meet again to discuss export quotas," Cardenas noted.

The OIC, which groups coffee-producing and consuming countries, met in London in early March to study exportation quotas. However, the negotiations failed.

Colombia is second in coffee production after Brazil, and currently, according to the Coffee-Growers Federation, the volume of its coffee sales is adequate.

The coffee federation has reported that the most recent 30 cent drop in the price quoted for a pound of coffee represents, in annual terms, a loss of $457 million for Colombia, $502 million for the Central American countries, and $2.52 billion for all producer countries.

DEFENSE MINISTER REACTS TO GUERRILLA ATTACKS

PA181852 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Excerpt] The military forces have announced measures to counteract attacks such as the one that took place in San Pablo, Norte de Santander Department where seven [as heard] policemen, one civilian, and eight guerrillas of the National Guerrilla Coordinating Board were killed. This announcement was made during the first meeting in 1987 of the police commanders in Bogota. Here is a report by Ricardo Canon:

[Begin recording] [Canon] The government, through Defense Minister General Rafael Samudio Molina, expressed serious concern about the deterioration of public order in the country, but at the same time it warned that it is ready to confront common crime and subversion in all forms. To this end, the minister announced an increase in the personnel of the armed institutions and the allocation of an additional budget to purchase the necessary equipment to face the wave of insecurity in the country. The high-ranking officer stated this today after opening a meeting of police commanders. He made the statement in response to the latest events in Norte de Santander Department where ELN [Army of National Liberation] subversives staged an attack on an oil pipeline of the Chevron company in the jurisdiction of Teorama, as well as an attack on San Pablo.

[Samudio] We cannot permit the continuation of subversion, terrorism, and crime. Therefore, we will use all the military forces, every means to control this situation.

[Canon] In view of the worrisome public order situation that you mention, do you think that the number of personnel and the budget must be increased?

[Samudio] You know that the country is demanding more security. It is demanding more soldiers and more policemen. Why? To protect the citizens' property and lives. [end recording] [passage omitted]

U.S. VICE PRESIDENT VISITS BRIEFLY TO VIEW DAMAGE

Goals Outlined

PA211416 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1240 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Francisco Suet, financial adviser to the president of the Republic, has said that the government will take advantage of the visit to our country of U.S. Vice President George Bush to give him an overall view of Ecuador's economic situation.

He said it is essential to awaken in Mr Bush an interest in supporting the Ecuadoran cause, so that economic normalcy may be reestablished in a short time. He added that the country needs resources from abroad and that the United States has the most influence of any country with the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and with the IMF.

Union Protests

PA211712 Paris AFP in Spanish 1625 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Excerpts] In an atmosphere of social agitation and amidst strict security measures, and having been declared "persona non grata" by the unions, U.S. Vice President George Bush will arrive on Sunday in Quito, 17 days after an earthquake hit Ecuador. Bush will meet with President Leon Febres Cordero. [passage omitted]

Bush's presence was objected to by the People's Front (FP) -- made up of labor, peasants, students, and teachers organizations -- which is one of the groups that has convoked a national strike next Wednesday to protest the economic measures adopted by the government to face the crisis.

The FP declared Bush "persona non grata for Ecuadoreans," according to its president, Luis Villacis, who said that "the economic policy implemented by the U.S. Government through the IMF, and carried out by Febres Cordero has made our country more dependent."

He added that the measures announced 1 week ago by the government to face the crisis resulting from the quake -- which include an 80 percent increase in the price of gasoline -- "will bring hunger and misery," and that "Bush's presence is a mockery and an attempt to harm our national sovereignty."

Marco Lara, national secretary for public information, said that "the Ecuadoran Government will not permit the United States Government, or any other government in the world to touch even a millimeter of its sovereignty."

"However, it is totally acceptable that if someone comes to see how he can help in a time of crisis, we should never close our doors, and worse yet, to do so based on political motivations," Lara concluded.

Arrives in Quito

PA221627 Paris AFP in Spanish 1610 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Quito, 22 Mar, (AFP) -- Today U.S. Vice President George Bush arrived at 1054 (1554 GMT) in Quito, where he will meet with President Leon Febres Cordero. He will offer U.S. aid to Ecuador for the damage caused by the earthquake that ravaged the country on 5 March.

Bush was met at the airport by Ecuadoran Vice President Blasco Penaherrera, government officials, and the diplomatic corps, who paid honors befitting his rank.

Bush will return this afternoon to Washington at 1600.

Leaves for Washington

PA222226 Paris AFP in Spanish 2153 GMT 22 Mar 87

[Text] Quito, 22 Mar (AFP) -- U.S. Vice President George Bush left at 1628 (2128 GMT) this afternoon bound for Washington after an official 5 and 1/2 hour visit to Quito. During his short stay in this capital, Bush delivered a second donation for the victims of the earthquake of 5 March, promised his country's "unconditional support" to rebuild after the damage caused by the 5 March earthquake, and held secret talks with Ecuadoran President Leon Febres Cordero and his Cabinet.

Bush was seen off by his Ecuadoran counterpart, Blasco Penaherrera.

UNIONS DEMONSTRATE AGAINST FUEL PRICE INCREASE

PA201347 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1152 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Yesterday in Quito, approximately 6,000 persons participated in a march organized by the trade unions to protest the increase in gasoline prices. Police used a considerable amount of tear gas to disperse the march along 10 de Agosto Avenue. In the midst of the confusion, a Molotov cocktail was hurled against the Finance Ministry building. It cause a fire on the first floor that had to be put out by firemen.

The leaders of the Sole Workers Front, the People's Front [Frente Popular], and the National Coordinating Board of Workers [Coordinadora Nacional de Trabajadores] went to the Congress to present their demands.

Police sources reported that to date, 100 persons who participated in the demonstrations have been arrested. In Salcedo, Cotopaxi Province, three students were reportedly wounded during clashes with police.

AMERICA BATTALION THREATENS HIJACKING 21 MAR

PA221319 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1240 GMT 22 Mar 87.

[Text] Yesterday, strict security measures were taken at Quito's Mariscal Sucre Airport after a telephone call was received warning about a possible plane hijacking by members of the so-called America Battalion, which groups rebel movements from Peru, Colombia, and Ecuador. Personnel of the Ecuadoran Army's Special Forces Battalion checked out all planes, and four military men were posted on each domestic flight to guarantee protection.

In Peru, police carried out strict checks near the Ecuadoran Embassy which had also been threatened, after top members of the Alvaro Lives Movement were arrested and sent to Ecuador.

ABC PUBLISHER ZUCCOLILLO EXPLAINS 'Z PLAN'

PY190239 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 11 Mar 87 p 10

[Text] Commenting on the "Z Plan,"Aldo Zuccolillo [owner of the closed newspaper ABC COLOR] has said: "First of all, let me make it clear that I did not propose this plan. I do not know why it has been called the 'Z Plan.' It had already been proposed last year by Fernando Levi Ruffinelli, and it was again outlined by members of the Christian Democratic Party. Therefore, I want to state that it is not true that I made this proposal. It may sound nice to say 'Z Plan,' but this is up to personal preference. Each person may call it by whatever name he prefers."

Zuccolillo added: "It is not a plan. It is just a proposal to take advantage of the upcoming 1988 election to promote political activities. This is a normal thing in any electoral dispute. The idea is to practice a little bit of democracy, a practice that is much needed in this country. Whether or not Stroessnerism will be willing to let true opposition members practice democracy is another question."

Zuccolillo said: "The idea is to participate in the 1988 presidential election with a candidate nominated by the Revolutionary Febrerista Party [PRF], which is the only party that can legally present a candidate under the present political conditions. The candidate must be supported by every citizen who is willing to fight corruption, injustice, and abuses."

Zuccolillo added: "An electoral campaign should be conducted: This is normal, but some people are trying to make it look like something from another planet. There are two positions: That of the abstentionists, who are definitely against this proposal; and that of people like me, who believe that we can and must do things, that democracy has to be achieved, that it is not a gift from heaven."

Zuccolillo added: "To abstain means to do nothing, to remain idle, to be lazy. Abstentionists are those who are waiting for the Holy Spirit to establish the conditions conducive to democracy and to tell Stroessner that he was been misbehaving, that he should repent for all his sins, and that he should call all abstentionists politicians and tell them: 'Gentlemen, here is the presidential chair, please come and be seated.' Things do not work out this way."

He said: "The government apparatus is not unbeatable. It will engage in electoral fraud, it will harass opposition members, it will stop buses, it will ban rallies. There is no doubt that all this will happen. So what?"

Regarding the PRF support for the proposal, he said: "I believe the PRF members are divided over this issue. I will only mention those who are in favor: Euclides Acevedo and his group. I will also say that Domingo Laino is in favor of the idea."

NANDUTI OWNER: POLICE SURVEILLANCE 'INCREDIBLE'

PY182242 Paris AFP in Spanish 1539 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Text] Asuncion, 13 Mar (AFP) -- Humberto Rubin, the owner and director of Radio Nanduti, today told AFP that some unidentified men who are presumably members of the political police have been following him everyday for the last month. He said he did not know why he was being followed.

Rubin said: Sometimes they follow me in two or even three cars as though I were a member of the Red Brigade or the Shining Path.

On 14 January Rubin decided that Radio Nanduti would stop broadcasting because of the heavy jamming that had been affecting its programs, especially its commercials, in the last 8 months in order to bring about its economic collapse.

Less than a month ago, the political police confiscated Rubin's passport and prevented him from traveling to Madrid to attend a meeting called Days for Democracy in Paraguay, which was attended by the main anti-Stroessner opposition leaders.

Rubin said: What they are doing to me now is incredible. They make me look as though I am participating in a shady deal, but everyone knows that my behavior has been irreproachable.

The progovernment newspaper PATRIA has recently charged Rubin with taking part in an international plot against the chief of state.

Upon announcing that Radio Nanduti will attempt to return to the air on 14 April, Rubin said: They are levelling Machiavellian charges against me.

Rubin has just installed a parabolic antenna at the station's transmission plant to link it with its studios located 15 km away. He said: Our objective is to avoid any jamming from any point. If they were to jam my station again, it would be very easy to trace the jamming.

At present Nanduti reporters are preparing information packages on Paraguay and selling them to foreign news organizations. Its announcers have also been sending daily reports on the Paraguayan situation to radio stations in the Americas and in Europe. Some members of Nanduti's staff have joined Radio Caritas, a Catholic station that is following the combative line of Radio Nanduti.

LIBERAL LEADER ARRESTED 6 MAR, HELD INCOMMUNICADO

PY171805 Asuncion LA TARDE in Spanish 7 Mar 87 p 8

[Text] Authorities of the Authentic Liberal Party today reported that PLRA [Authentic Radical Liberal Party] member Monico Gaona has been arrested by the police.

Gaona is the president of the capital's Number 9 Political Committee of the PLRA. According to PLR [Radical Liberal Party] leaders, the reasons for his arrest have not been made known. Gaona was arrested last night by police in Quindy. He was later taken to police headquarters in Asuncion where he remains incommunicado, according to the reports.

"Authentic" leaders said that "members of his family came to visit him at police headquarters, but could not personally speak to him."

GOVERNMENT TO CREATE FOREIGN DEBT COUNCIL

PY211405 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] The Peruvian Government has announced the creation of the National Council for Foreign Debt in order to coordinate the Peruvian foreign debt renegotiation process. Prime Minister Luis Alva Castro has said that the council will be presided over by the economy minister and that it will incorporate all agencies that deal with the foreign debt. Alva Castro added that the country has thus entered a new stage of negotiations with its creditors, in which dialogue will be more fluid and permanent, and in which Peru will seek long-term agreements while maintaining its basic principles and positions.

PRESIDENT GARCIA PROMULGATES REGIONALIZATION LAW

PY201532 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Excerpts] In a solemn ceremony at Government Palace in Lima, President Alan Garcia this afternoon promulgated the Regionalization Law. Present at the ceremony were congressional representatives and provincial mayors from throughout the country.

The law permits the creation of up to 12 regions, with their own economic and administrative autonomy, to replace the 25 departments in which our country is currently divided. [passage omitted]

This historic law, recently approved at a special session of Congress, permits the political, economic, and administrative decentralization of the departments which, beginning today, returns to the people of Peru, and to each of its departments, their autonomy. Referring to the promulgation of this law, President Alan Garcia stated that it reaffirms an historic decentralization of our fatherland, so often postponed due to the exaggerated growth of the nation's capital.

On implementing this Regionalization Law, each region will designate their own authorities through a general assembly comprised of provincial mayors, members directly elected by the population, and representatives of the various institutions.

President Alan Garcia will now sign the document to promulgate the law. Attention, people throughout the nation. This law is hereby promulgated today, 19 March 1987, at 1650.

[Begin Garcia recording] Gentlemen, representatives, senators, deputies, provincial mayors from throughout the country, and ministers:

We wanted this ceremony to be as simple as possible, yet formal, to show the necessary importance and the symbolism it represents. Through the ceremony we want to ratify here today our democratic, anti-imperialist, and revolutionary spirit, to help the people of Peru recover and strengthen their freedom, their participation in the country's activities, and their historic freedom of action. [passage omitted]

Today, on promulgating this law passed by Congress, the Regionalization Law which will mark a historic decentralization of our fatherland, we want to record for posterity that we are starting on a difficult path, that we are giving to the people a tremendous responsibility, that it will no longer be a great organized movement or a group of men who will rule Peru's destiny, but that it will be the people of Peru, through their conscience and action, who will decide the country's destiny. [passage omitted]

Today, on this historic moment, we renew our call to the future, that to achieve a different Peru we must, we we have already started, to implement a population policy which will prevent us from growing only through promiscuous instincts. We must have a population policy that will set a target and help us to achieve that goal. We must have a policy of economic development that will defend our resources and economic surpluses, keeping them inside the country and putting them at the service of development. We must firm up and maintain an economic policy that will reactivate our economy through domestic consumption and the increasing development of the well-being of the great majority. We must have a democratization policy, part of which we are promulgating now.

We need a democratization policy that will not only mean that citizens will have a voting card to vote every 5 or 6 years; we need a democratization policy by which the citizens will be able to exercise their will, their responsibility, and their work on a daily basis.

The key for this democratization policy will be the decentralization that we are beginning here and now. On returning to the people of Peru, in every region or in every department, their autonomous right to handle budgets, plans, and objectives, I know that, on behalf of Haya de la Torre's party, we are fulfilling an old promise: to democratize Peru, to restore the strength of its decision and the will of its history. [passage omitted]

On promulgating this decentralization law I want to remind you that only an act of moral value will make all Peruvians participate in the historic process of solidarity that will lead us to make a more just and free country, a more egalitarian and more sovereign country which will be the fruit of this anti-imperialist state we are building.

To each of the mayors who have come here, and as bearers of an authority granted to them through a direct decision of the people, I want to give them a message: to extend to the people this call of hope which is the Regionalization Law. But I also want to remind them of their commitment to know that decentralizing and regionalizing does not mean just learning how to use their decisionmaking power, but also to be committed to work. [passage omitted]

It is my task to warn all Peruvians of the historic importance of this law, and about the dangers it entails. But with a firm optimism that despite those dangers the people will do something great on this path of learning, I promulgate this law in the name of Haya de la Torre, in the name of the great heroes of Peruvian history, and in the name of the people who, collectively and anonymously, have fought for their place in the country's destiny. [passage omitted] [end recording]

GARCIA DISCUSSES DEFENSE MINISTRY BILL

PY211734 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Peruvian President Alan Garcia Perez today mentioned the possibility of calling a special session of Congress to discuss the bill proposing the creation of a defense ministry and the bill on peasant communities. The president also downplayed the rumors about increases of the prices of staples.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Sir, will you call a special session of Congress to discuss the bill to create a defense ministry?

[Garcia] Some senators and the president of the Senate have told me that there is a technical motion pointing out that the Senate requires 72 hours before it can begin to debate or vote on a bill submitted for its consideration and that this period of time will bring us to the end of the special meeting of Congress that has been convoked. In view of this the Senate has not yet begun to debate the bill on the defense ministry. Meanwhile the Chamber of Deputies has some very interesting proposals regarding the bill on peasant communities. If the problems that have arisen cannot be overcome in the course of the day, it is possible that we will convoke a short special session of Congress to discuss in detail the various topics that have arisen.

[Reporter] Mr President, you have been a deputy and you are senator for life. Based on your experience, do you believe that the creation of a defense ministry can be debated in the course of an special session of Congress, which some people believe to be (?too brief).

[Garcia] Certainly, because the creation of the ministry requires a political decision. As to the administrative implementation, the institutional organization of the ministry itself is another matter, it is something for the experts and for that, we require the opinion of those who know more about the subject.

Whether or not to create this ministry is a decision that the executive branch has submitted for consideration of the legislative branch, which may approve it or not. As to the actual organization of this ministry, a reasonable period of time has been set for it in order to hear from the truly knowledgeable people, and the job will be entrusted to true professionals in this field.

[Reporter] Including military officers who are (?retired) or on active duty?

[Garcia] Certainly. According to the Constitution the opinions or petitions of institutions that have a specific mission is not to be taken into account for the decision of whether or not to create a defense ministry. However, I believe that the opinion and the experience of those who are handling these matters should be taken into account for the institutional organization of this ministry that will merge three current ministries. [end recording]

UK DONATES SPECIAL PLANE FOR ANTIDRUG CAMPAIGN

PY211518 Paris AFP in Spanish 0133 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Lima, 20 Mar (AFP) -- The British Government today presented to Peru a specially-designed airplane for use in the struggle against cocaine trafficking in the Amazon jungle. The airplane, a twin-engine 10-passenger Islander, was presented by British Ambassador John Shakespeare to Interior Minister Abel Salinas in a ceremony at the Lima International Airport police station. The British donation also includes spare parts for a similar airplane owned by the Peruvian police.

Salinas reported that three helicopters lent by the United States will arrive within the next 2 weeks to participate in the campaign against coca growers and cocaine manufacturers in the Amazon jungle. The minister added that with this equipment the police will be in a better position to continue the struggle against the powerful drug trafficking groups that are working in the Amazon jungle and have modern means of transportation, including small airplanes and speedboats.

U.S. 'HEGEMONIC DISPLEASURE' ON UN VOTE NOTED

PA210054 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 18 Mar 87 p 5

[Editorial: "Hegemonic Displeasure and the Sovereignty of Nations"]

[Text] We want to give our opinion of the displeasure expressed by the U.S. Government -- through Elliott Abrams, undersecretary of state for inter-American affairs, to Jorge Espinosa de los Reyes, Mexican ambassador to the United States -- over the Mexican vote in the United Nations against the U.S. motion to discuss human rights in Cuba.

This position is not new. The Mexican votes in the United Nations, together with our country's foreign policy toward Central America, have become two points of conflict in the bilateral relations of Mexico and the United States. The other element in this incident -- the person who sent the diplomatic note -- is not new either. Elliott Abrams is known in Mexico for his accusations that Peru and Mexico are vociferous leftists. This is not a new factor, because Mr Abrams has increased his role as spokesman for the U.S. extreme right. It is said, probably with reason, that Mr Abrams' attitude is based primarily on his own convictions and, to another, less admissible motive: the attempt to conceal, disguise, or downplay his alleged involvement in the Irangate political scandal. Using this working hypothesis and basic analysis, we deduce that Abrams has tried to buy time and protect himself by looking for solidarity among the more aggressive U.S. sectors. It is then understandable that Mr Abrams should be the originator and bearer of the note in question.

It is truly unfortunate that the entire U.S. State Department's mechanism should be used to defend the personal interests of one official who lacks all political and moral authority because of his alleged involvement in the Irangate operation, in which all legal provisions and standards were disregarded.

Having noted Mr Abrams' personal interest in these activities, it is appropriate to point out the continuous U.S. Government pressure against the exercise of sovereignty by various countries and peoples. It would appear that -- unable to give convincing reasons to the U.S. citizens, who are justly scandalized by their government's capacity for breaking laws that it swore to uphold -- some sectors of Reagan's administration have decided to construct smokescreens by directing their threats and pressures at sovereign governments.

The incident to which we refer came about because Mexico voted against a motion promoted by the United States to have human rights in Cuba discussed at the United Nations.

First, we believe it is at least questionable for any country to assume the task of determining whether a state respects human rights or not. In any case, it is unacceptable for a judgment of this nature to be used arbitrarily to serve the particular interests of one country.

Second, it is clearly characteristic for Mexico's votes in the United Nation to conform to international law; precisely because of this, Mexico is recognized as a country that aligns its specific interests with international legal custom. Because of this, Mexico is one of the counties that is least submissive to interests that are ethically indefensible. This attitude places Mexico in a position totally opposed to that of the United States, which always wants to adjust international law to its interests.

For example, the fact that Latin American countries were reportedly called prior to the vote and warned that an opposing tally could mean the suspension of U.S. financial aid, is indefensible.

In this regard, it must be said that the Latin American nations do not require aid but rather more equitable trade agreements and financial agreements that are less exploitative.

In commenting on this unfortunate incident in Mexican-U.S. bilateral relations, perhaps it is advisable to remember that hegemonic displeasure cannot be given precedence over the sovereignty of nations. The representative of our country in the United Nations exercised the sovereignty of the Mexican state when he voted in favor of our national interests and in accordance with international law.

DEBT RENEGOTIATED, $7.7 BILLION AGREEMENT SIGNED

PA222021 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1955 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Report by NOTIMEX correspondent Roberto Gonzalez Perez]

[Text] Today the Mexican Government signed a loan for $7.7 billion with its approximately 400 creditor banks. The signing took place during a ceremony in which the international financial community reconfirmed its support for the economic projects undertaken by President Miguel de la Madrid.

In the ceremony, Mexican Finance Secretary Gustavo Petricioli said that the signing of the documents strengthens the world's financial system. Petricioli added: This means that when a county has a solid program, political will, and the capacity to overcome adversity, it deserves the understanding and cooperation of the international community.

[Begin Petricioli recording] We are pleased, very pleased with the agreement we achieved today, but we know that the foreign debt problem and not only our country's debt problem, but of all the debtor countries still exists. We have to find a solution of substance in the future. I would also like to stress that it is a mistake to consider the foreign debt problem as an isolated problem. This problem must be analyzed and understood as the result of a lack of development, growth, and cooperation in other fields. [end recording]

William Rose, Citibank vice president and copresident of the 13-bank committee that negotiated Mexico's debt, said that the signing of the documents represents the support given by the financial community to Mexico in view of its impressive economic program. The Mexican financial package includes agreements for $60 billion. Included are the restructuring of $43.7 billion of foriegn debt; an $8.6 billion decrease in the interest rate [as heard] on the debt contracted between 1983 and 1984; a new line of fresh money of $6 billion; and contingency loans for $1.7 billion.

The $7.7 billion also represents the most money ever given by commerical banks to one country in a single operation; in addition the conditions are the most favorable obtained by any debtor country.

Gustavo Petricioli explained that the resources will make it possible to increase public and private investment and to improve the country's capacity to create new jobs:

[Begin recording] These are resources that are already programmed, that are already part of the budget and economic policy established late last year.

In other words, they are not additional rsources for our economy, they had already been destined to promote exports, to increase public and private investment, to improve tourism, and to maintain an economic policy that can both fight inflation and reactivate the economy, especially in job-creating activities.

We need to be more selective and to promote truly priority programs for our country. For example, works of social interest that require a great deal of work such as completing unfinished works and to continuing the effort made by the Mexican people under the leadership of President Miguel de la Madrid's economic policy.

Today we received the support, the trust of the international community. This is not only important for the benefit of our country, but also for the strengthening of the international community. [end recording]

COMMERCE SECRETARY VIEWS FOREIGN INVESTMENTS

FL192128 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0247 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] Melbourne, Australia, 18 Mar (NOTIMEX) -- Hector Hernandez Cervantes, Mexican commerce and industrial development secretary, said here today that Mexico has a favorable climate for foreign investment because of the current government policy of active, systematic, and selective promotion of investments.

During a meeting of the Confederation of Australian Industries, the Mexican official said that foreign investment in Mexico increased 100 percent in the last 10 years while in 1980 foreign investments totaled $8.45 billion. By the end of 1986, this increased by almost $17 billion.

Speaking to Australian businessmen, investors, and industrial representatives, Hernandez Cervantes stressed that despite the extensive opening in the Mexican economy, imports in 1986 totaled close to $12 billion, a 15 percent decline in comparison to the previous year. This is due to the adjustment policies our country has been implementing to correct internal and external inequalities, said the commerce secretary.

In reference to foreign investment policy, Hernandez Cervantes said that new regulations were introduced in 1996 [as received] such as the so-called neutral capital, which is provided by international financial societies for development. Foreign investments are being promoted through a resolution with the majority of capital being invested in small- and medium-sized industries, said Hernandez Cervantes. He added that foreign investments have replaced the capital and foreign debt [as received] of businesses.

Hernandez Cervantes said the United States, the FRG, Japan, and Switzerland comprise 87 percent of total foreign investments in Mexico. We think it is healthy to promote greater diversification in foreign investment sources, he said.

BRIEFS

PETROLEUM PRICE INCREASE -- Pemex General Director Francisco Rojas has announced that as of 1 April, the price of Maya type export petroleum will be increased by 35 cents per barrel for the American continent and 25 cents for Europe. [Excerpt] [Mexico City XEW Televsion Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 20 Mar 87 PA]

EL SALVADOR

PRESIDENT DUARTE ON FMLN TALKS, ECONOMY

PA211826 San Salvador Channel 2 Television in Spanish 1900 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Good evening. Salvadoran state ministers and heads of governments offices are attending a seminar sponsored by the INCAE [Central American Institute of Business Administration]. The seminar is being held in a San Salvador hotel. Its purpose is to analyze and discuss the drafting of Salvadoran national production policies.

Using as a basis the experiences of Chile and the ROK, the persons attending the meeting will decide on actions our country is to take, particularly now that the prices of coffee, cotton, and sugar have dropped. Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte inaugurated the seminar. He said that El Salvador has one of the most difficult economic situations in the world because social reforms have been implemented in the midst of a crisis. He commented that the Chilean people are crushed, oppressed, and living under regrettable conditions because the dictatorship there imposed the wrong economic policy. Following the inauguration, President Duarte was interviewed.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Mr President, there is talk that the Central American countries are going to create a front to ask Colombia and Brazil for another meeting of the OIC [International Coffee Organization]. Has El Salvador decided if it will participate in that front?

[Duarte] Tomorrow, a delegation comprising the president of INCAFE [National Coffee Institute] and the ministers of foreign trade and economy will travel to a meeting in Nicaragua. There, we are going to discuss with all Central American countries, as well as with Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico, the ways to find a Latin American consensus that would enable us to again call an OIC meeting. We want to see if we can reach an agreement; otherwise, our countries will suffer.

[Reporter] Mr President, [words indistinct] the peace plan which Mr Shafick Handal recently proposed?

[Duarte] I listened to a small part of Shafick Handal's remarks on television. I was unable to listen to everything he said, however, I can tell you what I think. I do not know exactly what he said, but what I think is this: If we want peace in the country we must first make a decision regarding the violence. If we believe violence and armed persons are entitled to impose their will on others, then dictatorial rule and totalitarianism are valid concepts, because any armed person can be the boss. However, if we believe that this concept is not valid, if we believe violence is not a valid concept, then we must forsake the paths of violence. If we forsake the paths of violence we must find a path that is valid for everyone. What is that path? It is democracy. Why? Because democracy means that all of us must accept the will of the citizens of a country. Therefore, if we agree that violence is not valid and that democracy is, let us then reach an agreement and discuss those two topics. That is why I am saying that I am prepared to hold a dialogue anytime and anywhere as long as the armed sectors make the same decision I have made. I have decided that I do not believe violence is the solution or that power should be taken through violence. Secondly, I believe the path to follow is to respect the decision of the people and the democratic process. If the rebels make those who decisions, I will go anywhere at any time to discuss the way in which they will join the democratic process.

[Reporter] We must consider the drop in the price of coffee, the possible return of immigrants, and a reduction in revenues.

[Duarte] Well, I think this tells you how difficult the situation is. The country is facing a truly dramatic economic crisis. We cannot ignore that. Because the country is experiencing a dramatic situation, everyone is restless. This dramatic economic, political, and social situation is not new. It has been taking place for years. It is at least 50 years old. The proposed solution is very simple. Mr Jose Antonio Rodriguez Porth, who is the director of that thing [as heard] [changes thought] and is working [does not finish sentence]. He was a member of the government junta in the sixties. What did he do? He ordered the massacre of people. He gave that order when he was in the junta. What did that lead to? It led to violence in the country.

The people in the opposition parties are rending their clothes and talking about defending all that Mr Steiner is saying. They forget they are to blame for the fact that there are thousands of guerrillas in the mountains. They did not want others to have a chance. And so we must face a well-defined fact. There are people in the mountains, rifle in hand, who are saying the only solution is to raze and destroy all the Victor Steiners, kill everyone, kill all the Christian Democrats, and destroy everything. That is what the people in the mountains are saying. Others want to take over to -- they say -- kill the people who are in the mountains in no time at all. Neither of these two things are possible.

If neither of these two things are possible, we must find another method. That is what we are proposing. We are proposing a method to guide and direct this very grave situation. The problem of the economy...[changes thought] you just mentioned the problems that we will be facing this year. However, you did not mention last year's problems, the drought and the earthquake. In addition to the economic problems, the war, the drop in prices; that is, the drop in the prices of cotton and sugar, problems in exchange relations, increases in wages that increased prices and drove us out of the market, the reduction of the Central American market, on top of all of that, the earthquake, the drought, low coffee prices, and the return of thousands of people who were in Honduras and in the United States. [end recording]

Moreover, President Duarte said that as a way to overcome the current economic crisis, to reach a balance, exports should be encouraged instead of consuming foreign products.

FMLN'S HANDAL ON LIKELY SOLUTIONS TO CONFLICT

PA230129 San Salvador Channel 2 Television in Spanish 1900 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] This morning the FDR-FMLN press office sent us [a videotaped] interview with Commander Shafick Handal, member of the FMLN General Command.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] There was a nationwide strike by the private enterprise sector and a transportation stoppage at the same time. Was there a prior understanding between the FMLN command and private enterprise in this case?

[Handal] There was no understanding. What this involved was a coincidence. A specific and particular characteristic of the crisis in our country is that, in the economic field, there is a coincidence between the demands of the large popular sectors -- the urban and rural workers and the middle strata -- and these private enterprise sectors, including the major private enterprises -- big capital -- in regard to what has been dubbed the big package of economic measures and particularly in regard to the taxes. [end recording]

Handal also said that the FMLN has made a 6-point proposal to the government to reach an agreement to resolve the current crisis. The FMLN calls it an offer for a political resolution.

[Begin recording] [Handal] It must be a resolution based on the creation of a government of broad representation, as I have said. It would be, so to speak, the government of political resolution. This government would have to find solutions to some pending matters. Once this government is created, a cease-fire would be established. Then, within the framework of this cease-fire and with the two armies keeping their weapons and their positions, the problem of the existence of two armies would be resolved, also through the path of negotiation.

We feel that -- outside the context of the confrontation, and once the cease-fire has been established -- the more mature criteria, the criteria most reflecting the patriotic stances with respect to the search for a resolution of the problem of the two armies, will prevail in the Army, in the Armed Forces. We pledge to participate in these negotiations in good faith.

We have also proposed that this government of national resolution take steps to address the most acute economic and social problems. In the first place, we feel that the big package of economic measures enacted by this government, which has brought such dire consequences, must be repealed.

[Reporter] Commander, I would like to return to a previous topic. That is, how can the resolution you propose be made possible? A short time ago, the National University held a forum, to which ANEP [National Association of Private Enterprise] and the government were invited. Both refused to attend. To us, it looks like the possibilities of dialogue are nonexistent. In other words, I think your offer is scarcely viable at this moment. Can you comment on this topic?

[Handal] I was just going to refer to that. I thank you for bringing it up and even mentioning the case of the forum at the university. The question has been raised as follows. What are the chances of a dialogue with the government and with the top private enterprise leadership? Actually, the chances of such a dialogue have been dwindling. It began in La Palma and continued at Ayagualo, but the agreements reached there were not complied with later on. Lately, some specific negotiations have been held in connection with [prisoner] exchanges. That is to say, we have had to use force to bring about a situation that has ended in negotiation. There have been some specific negotiations that have given rise to some agreements that have eased some aspects of the conflict. These fall within the so-called humanization of the conflict. Thus, it has been possible to carry out some exchanges, to evacuate wounded fighters, and to liberate unjustly jailed prisoners.

Of course, this does not get to the bottom of the problem, of the overall resolution that is required. We feel that as long as the U.S. Administration and Mr Reagan remain intent on intervening in our country and remain hopeful of defeating us, Napoleon Duarte's government will not be in a position to extricate itself from its commitments and its subservience to the U.S. Government so as to make an overall resolution viable. He simply does not have the power. He simply does not govern. [end recording]

Commander Handal also said that as the dialogues with the government have weakened, an urgent need has arisen to hold a national dialogue in which all of the country's sectors would submit a platform for a resolution. According to a communique which the FDR-FMLN also sent to us, the interview with Handal was held on 7 March 1987 somewhere in San Salvador.

FOREIGN MINISTER ON ABRAMS MEETING, ARIAS PLAN

PA201439 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Salvadoran Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo has said in Washington that El Salvador and the United States are in full agreement regarding Costa Rican President Oscar Arias' peace plan for Central America.

Acevedo, who met with Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, noted that their position is clear and precise, and added that the peace document must be improved.

Acevedo claimed that aid to the contra forces can only be stopped when the existence of democracy in Nicaragua has been verified. We do not believe a lasting peace can exist while there is no true democracy. Moreover, before a cease-fire and amnesty can be established, El Salvador must have full, verifiable guarantees that Nicaragua has ceased to be a haven for the Salvadoran terrorist guerrillas.

Another observation is that the Arias document must set down serious bases for a dialogue of national reconciliation, before any other step is taken. I have discussed the plan today with Abrams and we both agree fully on these goals; this shows the agreement between our two countries, Acevedo affirmed.

A note issued by the White House regarding the Arias plan has stated that it has serious defects which must be corrected. The U.S. Administration maintains that the aid to the contras must be continued until the establishment of democracy in Nicaragua has been verified, and the dialogue of reconciliation must take place between the Sandinists and the contras, and not only with the unarmed opposition as proposed by the plan.

The meeting between Acevedo and Abrams took place at the request of El Salvador, to advise the Reagan administration of the serious political and financial problems that El Salvador will face with the massive repatriation of Salvadorans who are living illegally in the United States. This repatriation would take place in compliance with a new immigration law being implemented by the United States. Acevedo requested of Abrams that a special exception be made to prevent the massive and disorderly repatriation of most of the 500,000 or 600,00 Salvadorans residing in the United States, or, if no exception is made, that more financial aid be granted to El Salvador.

HONDURAS

ARMED FORCES EXPLAIN INCIDENTS NEAR GUATEMALA

PA200446 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Bulletin issued by the Public Relations Directorate of the Armed Forces in Tegucigalpa on 18 March]

[Text] In view of the alarming reports on alleged clashes during the last few days in the area bordering Guatemala between troops of our Armed Forces and alleged guerrillas, the Public Relations Directorate of the Honduran Armed Forces explains the incident to the national and international public:

1. At no time have armed incidents taken place between Armed Forces troops and alleged guerrilla groups in communities near the border with Guatemala.

2. What has, in fact, been determined after exhaustive investigations, is that on Saturday, 14 March at daybreak, a group of heavily armed Guatemalan civilians illegally entered our national territory through the area known as San Jose de Curaren, jurisdiction of La Encarnacion, Jutepeque Department, which borders Guatemala, to locate and provoke the members of a Honduran family whose last name is Maldonado, with whom they have an old family feud.

3. No one died in the confrontation between the two families. The members of the Guatemalan family, who illegally entered Honduran territory, left shortly afterwards.

4. In view of these serious incidents, a patrol of the 12th Infantry Battalion arrived in San Jose de Curaren on Tuesday to conduct an investigation. Upon approaching the home of the Maldonado family, the patrol was received with gunfire. In the ensuing shootout, soldier Manuel de Jesus Lopez Lopez and a female member of the Maldonado family were killed.

5. After repelling the treacherous attack, the Army troops captured three members of the Maldonado family.

6. The Honduran Armed Forces regret the death of soldier Manuel de Jesus Lopez Lopez, who lost his life while fulfilling his duty, which is to maintain order, protect our national sovereignty, and safeguard the property and lives of our citizens. We expressed the Armed Forces' most heartfelt condolences to his relatives.

Tegucigalpa, 18 March 1987.

AIR FORCE ANNOUNCES 'PEGASUS 87' MANEUVERS

PA210325 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] The Armed Forces Directorate of Public Relations reports that as part of the Vicente Tosta 87 maneuvers, the commander in chief of the Honduran Armed Forces and the U.S. Southern Command will sponsor a joint exercise with the participation of the Honduran Air Force and approximately 870 troops and support personnel from the Air Force, Air Force Reserves, and the Air Force National Guard. These forces will be participating in Pegasus 87, a joint exercise that will take place in Honduras from 1 April to 10 May.

NICARAGUA

NEW YORK TIMES REPORTS CIA-SUPPLIED CONTRA PLANS

PA202138 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] Washington -- It was reported today that the contras, using CIA intelligence reports, plan to destroy dams, bridges, electrical stations, port installations, and other targets inside Nicaragua. The CIA is supplying the contras with detailed maps, ground plans, and the location of the targets. Many of these documents were drafted by U.S. Army engineers in the 1960's and 1970's before the Sandinist revolution, THE NEW YORK TIMES said.

Tinoco Sends Protest Note

PA202246 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2140 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Communique sent by Acting Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco to U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz; no date given -- broadcast in progress]

[Text] I am addressing you concerning the information provided by U.S. Government officials, as published in the 19 March 1987 issue of THE NEW YORK TIMES, reporting that the CIA is supplying the mercenaries in its service accurate information on bridges, dikes, power substations, outlying stations, relay stations, harbor installations, and other objectives in Nicaragua, so they can destroy them.

According to this information, the CIA has supplied detailed maps, copies of drawings, and other information that makes it possible to locate with accuracy civilian objectives to be destroyed in a so-called spring-invasion that would be carried out in April and May of 1987.

The Nicaraguan Government presents its formal and strong protest in regard to this action by an official U.S. Government agency for these criminal plans, which seek to intensify the bloody policy of state terrorism practiced by the U.S. Government against Nicaragua, in open scorn for human life and in flagrant violation of the most basic principles of civilized coexistence between nations.

The use of these brutal and inhumane methods by the U.S. Government has already resulted in indiscriminate massacres in peasant cooperatives and rural villages, as well as many kidnappings, tortures, and actions that are offensive to the dignity and the most fundamental human rights of the Nicaraguan people.

This U.S. Government policy towards Nicaragua brings back to life times of deep crisis in the history of international relations, because laws and morality have been replaced by force and terror. Actions such as mining Nicaraguan ports, publishing operation manuals to specifically instruct the mercenary forces to carry out criminal actions, and the ongoing attacks against civilian and economic objectives, which have seriously endangered entire towns and have killed thousands of Nicaraguans, including children, are examples of a behavior that is in radical violation of international law. This kind of action openly places the current U.S. Administration in a confrontation with the continuous efforts conducted by the international community, which is seeking to eliminate terrorist actions, including very dangerous state terrorism.

The seriousness of these actions has reached even more dramatic dimensions because this is the official policy of a world superpower that has huge material and technical resources, which multiply the destructive effects of the state terrorism. This increases the magnitude of the damage to human lives, the attacks against the physical safety of people, and the destruction of the economic environment.

We need not dwell on the devastating effects of those indiscriminate methods when they are systematically applied to geographically small and underdeveloped nations. These events show that the Central American region is one of the focal points of international tension where violations of the international legal order are most profound and persistent.

The behavior of the U.S. Government constitutes open contempt toward the principles and objectives of the UN Charter and resolutions issued by its General Assembly, particularly Resolution 39-159 pertaining to the inadmissibility of any state terrorist policy and actions by the states aimed at undermining the sociopolitical system of other sovereign states that are approved without the express opposition of any state. This resolution reaffirms the obligation of all states in their international relations to abstain from resorting to threats and the use of force against the sovereignty, territorial integrity, and political independence of any state. It vigorously condemns the terrorist policies and actions in the relationship between states as a method to deal with other states and peoples.

The U.S. behavior also flagrantly violates Resolutions 38-130 and 40-61 of the UN General Assembly that urge all states to abide by an obligation imposed by international law to abstain from organizing or promoting terrorist actions in other states, from helping carry them out or participating in them, or approve of organized activities within their territories aimed at committing such actions.

These plans also show that the U.S. Government insists on dismissing the ruling handed down by the International Court of Justice on 27 June 1986 that condemned your government for carrying out activities contrary to the general principles of humanitarian law.

The Nicaraguan Government vigorously demands that the U.S. Government abstain from carrying out its immoral policy of state terrorism. It also makes the U.S. Administration directly responsible for loss of human life and property damage that will undoubtedly be brought about by the implementation of those plans against the Nicaraguan nation.

[Signed] Victor Hugo Tinoco, acting foreign minister.

Ortega on 'Terrorist Aggression'

PA212008 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1939 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Managua, 21 Mar (ACAN-EFE) -- Today, Nicaraguan President Daniel Ortega reported that it is expected in the next few days that "terrorist actions which will affect people in the cities" will begin.

The Nicaraguan president said that the U.S. "terrorist aggression" is now "more serious" because the CIA "is planning" attacks against cities, civilian and economic objectives, and revolutionary leaders in the country.

During an impromptu news conference at the Foreign Ministry building, Ortega said that Nicaragua will continue to face attacks directed "from abroad."

The Nicaraguan leader said the CIA has provided "the contras" and their "own commandos" the necessary information to carry out "terrorist" actions against civilian and economic objectives in Nicaragua. Ortega admitted that in the past few days actions by the rebel forces against the Managua government "have been identified." He said this is because the CIA wants to show that their "freedom fighters" (the contras) are fighting against the Sandinist troops."

Those who had hopes the Tower Commission report on the Iran-contra scandal would change the Reagan administration's policy "may rest assured that (Washington) is not willing to change its aggressive and terrorist action against Nicaragua," Ortega stated.

As part of the intensification of the aggressions against Nicaragua, Ortega charged that several anti-Sandinist attacks took place on 19 and 20 March in northern Nicaragua. According to the Nicaraguan president, 10 "counterrevolutionaries" and 4 Sandinist soldiers as well as 2 civilians, who were members of a coffee growers cooperative, were killed in these actions.

The Sandinist president also confirmed the death of a foreign newsman during a clash in northern Nicaragua. Ortega did not disclose the identity of the newsman or any details of the clash.

Reports published by the Canadian newspaper THE TORONTO SUN state that the dead newsman was Peter Burty, 40, a Canadian newsman who had visited Nicaragua on six occasions.

Burty, who died on Thursday, was not a member of the Canadian newspaper's staff; he was an independent worker, a "free lancer" [preceding two words in English].

ASTORGA SAYS U.S. MAKING CONTRAS WEALTHY

PA210034 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] San Francisco -- Nora Astorga, Nicaraguan ambassador to the OAS, has said that President Ronald Reagan's secret issuance of funds to the contras from the sale of U.S. arms to Iran has created new contra millionaires. Dr Astorga said at a news conference on Thursday that Nicaragua does not know what happened to the millions of dollars from the sale of U.S. arms to Iran, which were sent to the contras who, financed by the United States, attack and murder Nicaraguans.

The $40 million authorized by the U.S. Senate on Wednesday is another wasted $40 million. It is another $40 million to murder civilians in Nicaragua, another $40 million for terrorism, the Nicaraguan ambassador said. If financing the contras did not exist, the war would end, and we would live normal lives again, Astorga said.

BARRICADA ON DPRK DELEGATION ARRIVAL, AGENDA

PA200430 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 19 Mar 87 p 5

[Text] Kim Yong-nam, DPRK first vice premier and foreign minister, arrived in our country yesterday for a 4-day visit during which he will meet with top revolutionary government leaders.

Kim Yong-nam, who is also a member of the Political Bureau of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee, and his advisers, Kim Ke-Guang and Jo Czong-gak, [names as published] were received at the Augusto Cesar Sandino Airport by Nicaragua Vice President Sergio Ramirez, Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco, and other government officials.

The official DPRK delegation placed a wreath on Commander Carlos Fonseca's mausoleum and will meet with Defense Minister Humberto Ortega and Deputy Defense Minister Joaquin Cuadra.

The DPRK delegation has also scheduled meetings with foreign Cooperation Minister Henry Ruiz and Industry Minister Emilio Baltodano. The agenda includes a meeting with President Daniel Ortega on Friday.

On Saturday they will go on a work visit to different production centers in the 4th Region, where Kim Yong-nam will observe Nicaraguan economic and agricultural development.

BARRICADA REPORTS NEW CUBAN COOPERATION PACT

PA201447 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 19 Mar 87 p 5

[Text] For the sixth year in a row, Nicaragua and Cuba have signed a cooperation agreement in the areas of education, culture, science, and sports. The agreement includes the exchange of delegations between the two countries.

The cooperation agreement establishes the need to continue strengthening bilateral ties in these areas by organizing visits of artistic groups, specialists, scientists, students, and athletes so they may learn about the realities of both nations and contribute to both countries' development.

The signing of the agreement took place in the Foreign Ministry office. Cuban Deputy foreign Minister Ricardo Alarcon de Quesada and Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Jose Leon Talavera signed the agreement. Both officials expressed their satisfaction over the signing of the agreement, and they stressed the importance of strengthening the moral, political, economic, and cultural ties between Nicaragua and Cuba.

FDN CLAIMS EPS HELICOPTER DOWNED IN ZELAYA

PA210050 Buenos Aires REUTER in Spanish 0031 GMT 21 Mar 87

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 20 Mar (REUTER) -- A spokesman for the anti-Sandinist FDN in Tegucigalpa announced today that a Soviet made MI-17 helicopter owned by the EPS was downed by Nicaraguan rebels on Thursday in central Zelaya Department. The spokesman added that the helicopter was downed yesterday afternoon in the area of Las Delicias, 52 km from Rio Blanco in central Zelaya Department.

FDN spokeswoman in Tegucigalpa, Adela Icaza, said that the MI-17 was transporting troops and artillery to reinforce Nicaraguan forces in the region when it was hit by a missile. The spokeswoman said she had no detailed reports regarding the casualties resulting from the downing of the aircraft.

STRATEGY LECTURE AT U.S. EMBASSY ANALYZED

PA210145 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 87

["Analysis of Minsinformation" by Onefre Guevara]

[Text] In yesterday's edition of EL NUEVO DIARIO, we read that a U.S. military man who is also an official of the Yankee government delivered a lecture on U.S. strategy in Central America, particularly in Nicaragua, to a group of mostly political activists of the Nicaraguan right, who are also well-identified with the imperialist foreign policy. To show that there was no formality, the event was held at one of the facilities of the U.S. Embassy.

From the political and ideological viewpoint, we see that the activity was a reproduction of the imperialist message, to the appropriate listeners, and using the appropriate communicator, as it was a military man from the country promoting a military action against another country, in this case Nicaragua.

From the informative viewpoint, we see the old issue of freedom of information and press come to surface. First of all, even though the Yankee military man came to promote a warmongering policy in the same country that is facing it, he found no obstacles in expressing his viewpoints. Just as some Nicaraguan leaders who have managed to overcome the State Department's resistance have voiced their opinion before the U.S. Public.

We see that there is freedom of information in Nicaragua and the United States. However in the United States, that freedom is even used to say nothing. [sentence as heard] It is officially said that there is no freedom of information or press in Nicaragua, while the United States continues to brag about being the country where all freedoms are respected.

Jose Muratti, who carries out propaganda for the Yankees' warmongering policy and who could be mistaken for an unpatriotic Latin American, mentioned something about the alleged lack of freedom in Nicaragua. In replying to a question made by a pro-U.S. Nicaraguan who asked why the Nicaraguan rightist groups did not receive more publicity in the United States, he said: We do not have BARRICADA. He then noted that the newspapers in the United States are independent from the imperialist government. Besides, the U.S. newspapers do reflect their government's viewpoints, not because they are official newspapers, but because they share an affinity for economic and ideological interests. The government and the press are instruments of the same economic and political power of the monopolies. The Yankee agent will not be able to deny that, just as papers in the United States do, some newspapers here print what our leaders say. The propaganda activities of U.S. officials here are permitted and covered.

In addition, the Yankee agent has not even asked why Nicaraguan leaders in the United States and Yankee agents in Nicaragua are given equal opportunities and liberties considering that the United States is the attacker and we are the attacked.

Now we will consider morals. It is immoral to proclaim the good of war in a country that is the victim of a warmongering policy. It is very moral, however, for a leader of an attacked country to speak to the people of an attacking country and condemn the war waged by the latter's government.

The Yankee agent likely will not understand these things about morals. It is even less likely for the anti-Nicaraguans who listened to him to understand these things. It is clear who abuses press freedom and supposed independence. In practice, this is only hypocrisy. We leave, for the satisfaction of the pro-Yankee listeners, the thought of a beloved Yankee reporter, William Allan White: "It is possible to be hungry and wear rags. It is also possible to walk the narrow path while we are tired and our feet are swollen. It will be necessary to do this to feel satisfaction and self-respect. If they are prepared for this, good. Follow the splendid path [words indistinct] and be happy and die like [words indistinct] in a great funeral." What is not closed is the traitor process of the Nicaraguan bourgeois politicians.

U.S. SETTING CONDITIONS FOR NEW IDB FUNDS

PA192246 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 18 Mar 87 p 3

[Article by Luis Manuel Arce: "IDB: New Confrontation"]

[Text] From 23 to 25 March, Miami will be the site of the annual IDB meeting which could decide the seventh general increase of funds for that multilateral credit organization.

It is expected that 2,500 people representing 27 American countries, 17 West European countries, Japan, Yugoslavia, and international banks and organizations will participate in it. The key point in the meeting is the replenishment of $27 billion in funds to finance loans until 1990.

This objective is pending from the previous assembly held in San Jose, Costa Rica, last year. Since then, it has been addressed in seven formal meetings and several informal meetings, but no agreement has been reached on the differences between the United States and Latin America.

The United States is conditioning its decisive contribution of $9.305 billion to a reform of the voting mechanism which Latin America refuses to accept. The IDB decisions are currently adopted by a simple majority of half plus one, a method that favors the Latin Americans, who control 53.5 percent of the votes.

The United States is proposing to increase the majority to 65 percent, with which it would tacitly have in its hands the right to veto because by controlling 34.7 percent of the votes, just one country would have to support the United States and the minimum required for any decision would not be obtained.

In addition to these institutional modifications, the United States has two other proposals:

A. A greater allocation of funds for structural and sectoral credits under the same conditions as those imposed by the IMF and the World Bank: implementation of recessive economic readjustment policies.

B. Elimination of the regulation that limits the credits for the four countries of so-called Group A -- Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, and Venezuela -- to 30 percent of the total IDB funds.

With the structural credits, the United States wants the borrowers to use that money to pay for their foreign debt. This would eliminate the reason for the existence of the IDB, which is to finance development projects.

The elimination of the limits on the credits of Group A falls within the overall approach of the unsuccessful Baker Plan which calls for concentrating the loans in the most indebted countries for economic reasons, demanding immediate profits, and giving priority to the private sector in mixed projects with foreign capital.

Among the other conditions for future IDB loans, the United States is proposing the sale of some state enterprises which have benefited from credits and which are unprofitable, the reduction of the expiration and grace periods for the poorer countries -- currently 40 years for payment with a 10-year grace period -- and increasing the interest.

At the same time, the U.S. Congress is demanding a drastic cut in governments funds for the multilateral organizations such as the IDB if it is proven that they are used in the production of surplus products, especially in agriculture and mining.

A law on agricultural investments abroad approved this year establishes that the United States will oppose credits for that purpose and that it will not replenish funds in international organizations if credits are approved to support surplus products. This places the Latin Americans, who basically live off agriculture and mining, in serious difficulty.

At the end of February, [Treasury Secretary James] Baker reiterated to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee the White House decision not to approve the seventh replenishment of IDB funds if its views are not accepted.

In the Costa Rica meeting, the Latin American countries acted as a bloc and the United States did not achieve its objectives. That unity has basically been maintained so far.

The struggle will certainly continue in Miami, but the fact that the differences have not been overcome despite the U.S. pressures clearly indicates that times are changing in favor of Latin America's negotiating positions.

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS U.S. EMBARGO AT GATT

PA201942 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] Alicia Pereira, Nicaragua's legal representative in the GATT, has announced that the revolutionary government will file a lawsuit during the GATT's regular meeting on 15 April. Pereira said that shortly after the commercial blockade was imposed against our country, the GATT was asked to appoint a special commission to investigate the illegality of the U.S. action. However, the GATT commission had limited powers, something which hindered its work.

Pereira said that as a result of the U.S. economic embargo against Nicaragua, the country has lost up to $160 million. She added that for that reason, and based on the ruling of the International Court of Justice in The Hague, Nicaragua is legally entitled to demand before the GATT a prompt solution to its dispute with the United States.

CASTRO SPEAKS TO BRAZILIAN JOURNALISTS

Addresses Debt, Vitiligo

PA210042 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] Cuban President Fidel Castro termed his relations with the highest Soviet leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, as excellent and fraternal. Castro noted that the processes being carried out in Cuba and the USSR depend on the conditions prevailing in each country.

In statements made in Havana to Brazilian reporters, Fidel Castro explained that he has always maintained good relations with the Soviet leaders but that he has had more contacts with Mikhail Gorbachev.

The Cuban president noted that the rectification of errors and negative tendencies began in Cuba before the process to correct errors began in the USSR. Castro added that it is necessary to take into account that the USSR will be celebrating the 70th anniversary of the revolution and that the Soviets are trying to resolve their own difficulties according to their process and particular characteristics. Castro noted that Cubans are trying to adopt the solutions to their own conditions and problems which are different from those of the USSR.

Yesterday Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto de Abreu Sodre gave a reception at the Havana Conventions Palace in honor of his Cuban counterpart Isidoro Malmierca. The Cuban president attended the reception. He took advantage of the opportunity to hold a lively conversation with several Brazilian reporters who accompanied the foreign minister of Brazil.

President Fidel Castro discussed, among other subjects, the foreign debt.

[Begin Castro recording] I believe that the Third World as a whole, not only Latin America, is in no condition to pay the debt. It cannot pay the debt. [Words indistinct] should pay it. This is a theory. I justify this position with numbers and data. It is mathematically impossible to pay the debt.

I have said that we are not debtors, that we are creditors. Which are the debtor countries now? The former colonies, the countries that were exploited. I have said that the causes of the debt are underdevelopment, unfair trade, dumping, and abusive measures.

For centuries they exploited us as slaves and Indians. They took out billions [no currency specified] in gold. They accumulated wealth and left us poor. I say that from a historic and moral viewpoint we are the creditors and not the debtors. The debt is unpayable. If the debt were to be erased right now, in 10 or 15 years -- if there is no change, if the new international economic order approved by the United Nations is not implemented, if the unfair trade situation does not end, if no end is put to the dumping, to protectionism -- we would be in the same position. If this is not corrected, we could be in a worse position. This is why we say that in addition to erasing the debt, we have to struggle for a new international economic order and for Latin American integration.

If the debt disappears and a new international economic order appears, we still would not resolve our problems without integration. Europe is a good example of this.

It lived for centuries with the European nations waging war on each other, but nowdays none of these nations believes it could survive without the EEC.

How could a small country survive? I am not going to talk about Brazil, which is a big country, practically a continent, although even Brazil needs integration and would benefit from integration. There is much talk about this nowadays, and the first steps in that direction are being made. Evidence of this is the agreements reached by Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay. This is the right road. [Words indistinct]

There are big communities: the socialist community in Europe, the EEC, Japan, the United States, China.... What is the outlook of our Balkanized and isolated countries that have economies that do not complement each other and that are not integrated? [Words indistinct] simple and clear. What I am stating is just a position: Each country must do whatever it finds suitable, [words indistinct]. The debt has become a cancer that keeps growing. Now loans are being requested to pay for the interests and the debt grows more.

This is, I believe an opportunity to unite. I believe we have to unite to support Brazil and that the Nonaligned Movement, the Group of 77, the socialist countries, and the United Nations must support Brazil as much as possible because as I see it, Brazil is waging a struggle not only for its own benefit but also for the benefit of the Third World countries. A Brazilian defeat would be a terrible defeat for all of us, and a Brazilian victory would be a great victory for all of us. I have spent 3 years analyzing this problem and events are demonstrating the validity of what we have stated.

What we have to do now is to unite around Brazil and to support Brazil. Regarding this problem of the debt, I will say, with your permission, that I think -- and I have said this often -- it is necessary to have internal unity. This is a decisive factor in this type of problem. It is also necessary to have the unity of all the Third World countries to support Brazil, which is waging its own battle and our battle. This is what I think. [end recording]

Yesterday Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto de Abreu Sodre held a reception in honor of Cuban Foreign Minister Isidor Malmierca. This reception, which took place in one of the rooms of the Havana Conventions Palace, was attended by Cuban President Fidel Castro who talked with Brazilian reporters who accompanied De Abreu Sodre for his trip to Cuba.

We have just offered in this program an excerpt of the statements made by the Cuban president. Here is another excerpt. In this portion, Cuban President Fidel Castro speaks about the possibility of transferring Cuba's experience on the cure of vitiligo -- a skin disease very common throughout the world -- to Brazil. Let us listen:

[Begin Castro recording] This evening we discussed this with the foreign minister, the ambassadors, with Roberto, and with the senator from the state of Espiritu Santo -- here we have a province called Sancti Spiritus and over there it is the other way around: Espiritu Santo. We discussed this subject. He told me that you have a new hospital that will be dedicated in 30 days and that he is interested in taking our product there and in sending our personnel to give technical training on how the treatment should be administered so that many people may be cared for.

I think this is an excellent idea. Dozens of Brazilians come every week to Cuba. I understand there are some 1 million people who suffer from vitiligo. This is a cruel disease that creates harsh conditions for the morale of individuals who suffer from vitiligo. We know some companeros who have suffered from vitiligo and who have been cured with this treatment.

However, many persons cannot come to Cuba because it is too costly. It is better to transfer the technology and to explain how the treatment is administered so that it can be administered in Brazil. This is more economical and fair. Whatever progress we make in that direction is good. I spoke with Comrade [name indistinct] this evening because he is the one who takes care of the Brazilians who come to Cuba. I told him: Let's make an effort to transfer our experience on the treatment aspect quickly, and let us guarantee a supply of the medicine, which is not expensive. The medicine is not expensive, what is expensive is a trip from Brazil to Cuba. So we are going to cooperate with pleasure.

We are not interested in the problem from a commercial point of view. [end recording]

Denies Dissidents Imprisoned

PA212232 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] The alleged existence in Cuba of imprisoned dissidents was another of the topics discussed by Fidel Castro during his talk with the Brazilian reporters who accompanied Brazilian Foreign Minister Roberto de Abreu Sodre in his visit to Cuba.

[Begin recording] [Castro] We do not have any dissidents in prison. Now, if you mean CIA agents, conspirators, people who have come to our country to murder and sabotage, some of them are still in prison. But I want to tell you we have very few of them in prison. We still have a couple of hundred of them in prison. There were thousands at one time. We gradually released them as they served, I mean, before they served their sentences. Some of them are still there. What would they do if we release them? They would go to Miami to make terrorist plans against our country. They would go to Nicaragua, El Salvador, and other countries [words indistinct].

Now, who is demanding that these people be released? These people are not dissidents. Do not for one moment believe this story. They worked against the revolution. For example, some of them committed crimes in the time of Batista. Then we released them. [Words indistinct]. They were punished, but they are now free. But the Yankees are not interested in this. The Yankees are interested in those they used in their dirty war against Cuba. Their plans have always aimed at the leaders of the revolution. These are those the Yankees are interested in. The Yankees used them as they now use mercenaries in Central America. Like they do in Central America at present, they waged a dirty war against Cuba. As they do in Central America at present, they trained people and even invaded the country.

I would say, however, that an excellent proof of the need for the revolution is that the mercenaries who invaded the country in 1971 stayed in prison less than 2 years. They were punished. We demanded compensation. The Yankees paid the compensation, and we released the invaders. It was we who sought a generous formula. Those who invaded and betrayed the county were held in prison for less than 2 years.

Many people were trained and organized by the CIA and then brought to the country to sabotage and murder the leaders of the revolution. Naturally, these people were punished. However, 90 percent of them are now free. Some remain who the Yankees greatly appreciate, individuals full of hatred for the revolution. To the Yankees, these men are heroes. Some of these remain in prison.

[Reporter] How many are left?

[Castro] About 2,000 of the CIA. There may be some who have been detained more recently, as the result of some activities. They hae scores of radio stations devoted to fostering subversion, sabotage, activities against the revolution. Radio Marti does this, among other things. What should we do? Disarm ourselves? Weaken ourselves? Guarantee the impunity of those who act against the revolution? No. we cannot do this. [End recording]

The reception attended by the Cuban president was held in one of the rooms in Havana's Palace of Conventions. The Brazilian foreign minister gave this reception to honor his Cuban counterpart, Isidoro Malmierca. Here is another excerpt of the talk between Castro and the Brazilian reporters. Castro answered some questions regarding Cuba's relations with the Soviet Union, particularly its top leader Mikhail Gorbachev. Castro recalled the excellent relations that the two countries and the two leaders established during the 26th CPSU Congress in February last year. Here is the last excerpt of Castro's conversation.

[Begin Castro recording] My personal relations with Gorbachev are excellent. I am happy to say frankly that he is a very intelligent, expressive, and talkative man. I saw him again at this time. After I went to the DPRK, I returned to the Soviet Union and talked to him. [Words indistinct] occurred a meeting of party secretaries, CEMA countries leaders. I went to the Soviet Union, I was invited and told that there was a great interest in my attending this meeting. I participated. I met for 3 days with all of the party secretaries and CEMA countries leaders. Gorbachev was there. The meeting lasted about 20 hours. I have no complaints regarding the relations among us, although some of them have already passed. We cannot be ungrateful. The committee and all the political leaders treated us very well. My relations with Gorbachev have been closer than with other leaders. On the day of the meeting, he was seated next to me after a dinner. My relations with him are excellent. Our relation is friendly, brother-like. [Word indistinct].

All this goes very well with the Soviet Union, just like our relations with Brazil do. We are in the process of establishing excellent relations with the various Brazilian sectors: political, industrial, economic, etc. We had the privilege of being visited by the Brazilian foreign minister, with whom we have talked and met, in a friendly and brother-like way. We met at night. No shadow in our relations with our friends exists. Our relations with our friends progress and strengthen. [end recording]

WALTERS 'PRESSURED' PRESIDENTS ON UN RESOLUTION

FL210211 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 2230 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] Vernon Walters, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, has admitted exerting his influence over five presidents so they would vote in favor of a resolution against Cuba at the recent UN human rights conference in Geneva.

When questioned by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Walters did not identify the presidents he pressured to support the resolution.

The U.S. draft against Cuba was rejected and Elliott Abrams, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, called on the ambassadors of Argentina, Peru, Venezuela, and Colombia to express Washington's displeasure for not supporting the United States as was done by Costa Rica.

COMMENTARYS ON U.S. DEPORTATION OF SALVADORANS

PA192208 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Mar 87

["Our America" commentary, read by Manolo Ortega]

[Text] The United States, described by its leaders as the world's most democratic country, the most humane, and the one that offers equal opportunities for all, is about to cause the gravest and [most] unexpected crisis in recent times to one of its staunchest allies in Central America. Apparently, the Republican administration has just realized that the showcase did not have enough supply to meet the demand it encouraged for years. Consequently, it has decided to get rid of those who only recently arrived under the false concept of the promised land. In other words, by implementing the Simpson-Rodino law, the U.S. Government has decided to repatriate refugees, including more than 150,000 Salvadorans who live clandestinely in various U.S. cities.

A Salvadoran sociologist recently said that the U.S. decision will lead to chaos which will be even more serious than the October earthquake. This deportation, he added, could cause an alarming sociopolitical destabilization, and could even become a very dangerous political detonator.

Authorities themselves have admitted that in El Salvador the unemployment rate surpasses 50 percent of the economically active population, there is a shortage of houses, and the prices of staple products periodically increase, while people are suffering due to an unprecedented inflation and an economic chaos with no immediate solution.

Aside from the consequences, war must be seen as the fundamental cause of the massive exodus to other nations and of the domestic displacement of thousands of civilians, a conflict which persists and worsens, with no apparent solution in sight. More than 500,000 civilians have had to abandon their places of origin due to the continuous succession of military operations carried out by the government's Army. As if this were not enough, 5 months after the earthquake, the regime has not yet resolved the situation of more than 200,000 victims of that catastrophe. To this we must add that from 1980 until now, almost 1 million Salvadorans have traveled to the United States, where most of them have remained illegally. Approximately 250,000 live in Mexico, and others live in Canada, Panama, and Honduras.

There is more: Thanks to the United States, unconditional friend of the Salvadoran regime, thousands of political refugees will also have to return to their countries, where they will face the risk of being killed.

In conclusion, we can say that the deportees can only expect to join the long line of Salvadorans whose only alternative is pain, misery, and death.

NICARAGUAN DELEGATION VISITS HOLGUIN PROVINCE

FL132143 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1910 GMT 13 Mar 87

[Text] Nicaraguan guerrilla Commander Leticia Herrera, coordinator of the Sandinist Defense Committee [CDS], and the delegation traveling with her, have placed a wreath before the mausoleum of Major General Calixto Garcia, in Holguin. During the ceremony at the Holguin Mausoleum, the representatives of the Nicaraguan CDS learned about Cuban history from a frieze that decorates the site.

As part of the visit, the Nicaraguan delegation held a fraternal meeting with CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution] leaders, during which various aspects of the CDS and CDR's work was discussed. At the end of the tour through this eastern province, the Nicaraguans will visit tourist areas in northern Holguin, and other points of social and economic interest in this province.

IRAQI PARTY DELEGATION HOLDS TALKS 19 MARCH

JN202040 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 2000 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] A round of talks was held in Havana yesterday between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Communist Party of Cuba. Comrade Taha al-Basri, head of the Ba'th Party National Command Foreign Relations Bureau, led the Ba'th Party delegation while Comrade Risquet Valdes, member of the Politburo, secretary of the Central Committee, and head of the Foreign Relations Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, led the Cuban delegation.

During the talks the conferees studied ways to reactivate and develop relations between the two parties in all fields in preparation for signing a joint cooperation protocol.

Taha al-Basri explained developments in the region, concentrating on the aggressive war launched by the Iranian regime against Iraq. He affirmed Iraq's capability to defeat the aggression. Al-Basri touched on Iraq's call for resolving the conflict through peaceful means through its many responses to international and regional initiatives as well as Iraq's many initiatives, the latest of which being President Saddam Husayn's message to the Iranian rulers on 2 August 1986 -- the message which contains the five principles which might constitute a basis for resolving the conflict and ending the war through peaceful means and negotiations.

Taha al-Basri noted the Iranian regime's insistence on continuing the war and on launching many offensives at the battlefront -- offensives which were all doomed to failure thanks to Iraq's steadfastness and forces' capability to confront aggression, inflicting on the Iranian forces heavy losses despite large aid from the Zionist entity.

Valdes expressed Cuba's support for the five principles contained in leader President Saddam Husayn's message. He said his country is in full agreement with Iraq that the above mentioned principles constitute a sound basis for ending the war. The Cuban official expressed his party's desire to develop cooperation with the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and to coordinate with it on many stands in the service of world liberation movements.

The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party delegation arrived in Havana on 18 March on a visit of several days to Cuba.

DPRK FOREIGN MINISTER KIM YONG-NAM VISITS

Meets With ICAP President

FL142027 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1915 GMT 14 Mar 87

[Text] This morning, DPRK Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam was received at the Cuban Institute of Friendship With the Peoples [ICAP] by ICAP President Rene Rodriguez Cruz, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee. The meeting was also attended by the DPRK ambassador to Cuba and the Cuban ambassador to Pyongyang and was held in a climate of friendship and solidarity, which is prevelant in the relations of the two countries' parties, governments, and peoples.

Meets With Rodriguez

FL170155 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met with the foreign ministers from the DPRK and Zimbabwe.

Rodriguez and DPRK Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam extensively discussed the preparations for the special ministerial conference of the Nonaligned Movement on cooperation between developing countries, which will be held in Pyongyang in June.

The Cuban foreign minister had an extensive talk with Zimbabwean Foreign Minister Witness Mangwende on the situation in South Africa and the Front Line States' struggle against the South African racist regime, as well as other topics.

Discusses Bilateral Relations

FL180014 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2337 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Jorge Risquet, member of the Politburo and Secretariat of the Communist Party of Cuba, today met with Kim Yong-nam, member of the Korean Workers Party Politburo, vice premier of the State Administration Council, and DPRK foreign minister. During the meeting they discussed bilateral relations, the international situation, and the recent special ministerial meeting of the Cooperating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement on Latin America and the Caribbean held in Georgetown, Guyana.

Meets With Castro

FL191357 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 19 Mar 87

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, met Tuesday [17 March] evening with Kim Yong-nam, vice premier of the State Administration Council and foreign minister of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Yong-nam conveyed to Fidel greetings from Korean President Kim Il-song and from the member of the Korean Workers Party Politburo Kim Chong-il. The talks were held in a friendly and fraternal climate. They agreed on various subjects of mutual interest, such as the upcoming meeting in Pyongyang of the special Nonaligned Movement ministerial meeting on south economic cooperation and the cohosting by the two parts of Korea of te 24th Olympic Games.

ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN MINISTER BERHANU VISITS

Arrives, Meets Risquet

FL172217 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2133 GMT 17 Mar 87

[Text] Bayeh Berhanu, member of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia Politburo and Ethiopian foreign minister, arrived in Havana today at the head of a delegation on an official and friendly visit to Cuba. The Ethiopian leader was met at the Jose Marti International Airport by Jorge Risquet, member of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Politburo and secretary of the PCC Central Committee, who gave a cordial welcome to the distinguished guest.

In statements made to the press at the airport, Berhanu expressed his satisfaction with the special ministerial meeting of the Coordinating Bureau of the Nonaligned Movement on Latin America and the Caribbean, which was recently hedl in Georgetown. He also stressed the positive results of that meeting during which solidarity with Latin America was ratified and the imperialist's aggressive attempts were rejected.

Upon his arrival today, the Ethiopian foreign minister said he was very glad to be in Cuba and he said his visit to our country will strengthen even more the ties of friendship between the two nations. In reference to his stay in Managua, he said his goal was to convey Ethiopia's solidarity to a country that is attacked by the imperialists and to strengthen the ties of friendship between the two nations.

Also included in the Ethiopian delegation are (Tesfaye Tedese), member of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia Central Committee and Ethiopian ambassador to the United Nations [title as heard] as well as other Ethiopian Foreign Ministry officials.

Also at the airport to greet the distinguished visitor was Geraldo Mazola, vice foreign minister, and Antonio Perez Herrero, member of the PCC Central Committee and Cuban ambassador to Ethiopia.

Begin Talks With Malmierca

FL180224 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] Foreign Ministers Bayen Berhanu and Isidoro Malmierca Peoli, of Ethiopia and Cuba, respectively, began official talks this afternoon at the Foreign Ministry. The dialogue was held in a fraternal atmosphere and the delegations analyzed the state of bilateral relations, international affairs, and the current situation in Central America. They also discussed some of the topics mentioned at the recently-concluded foreign ministers meeting of the nonaligned countries, which was held in Guyana.

Attends Ceremony

FL190011 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2250 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] At the Cuban Foreign Ministry in Havana this afternoon, Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca received the diplomatic corps accredited in Cuba and introduced Ethiopian Foreign Minister Bayeh Berhanu. Berhanu, who is also a member of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia Politburo, is in our country on an official visit and is fulfilling an invitation extended by his Cuban counterpart.

Participating in the ceremony were Antonio Perez Herrero, Cuban ambassador to Addis Ababa, and Nadew Zekarias, Ethiopian ambassador to Havana.

Berhanu began official talks yesterday and tomorrow he will tour the Isle of Youth, Santiago de Cuba Province, and Varadero. He will return to Ethiopia on Sunday [22 March].

COMMENTARY VIEWS UPCOMING UJC CONGRESS

FL182153 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 18 Mar 87

[Text] The Cuban communist youths will hold their fifth congress within several days, after the base and intermediate levels discussed the main problems affecting this large sector of Cuban society.

Cuba is a country of youths. Almost one-half of the population is under 30 years of age. One-third of the labor mass is made up of youths; which is the same as saying that one-third of the country's total production is put out by youths.

The daily JUVENTUDE REBELDE just began publishing the text of the central report that the delegates to the Fifth Congress of the Union of Young Communists [UJC] will discuss during this most important event. The report is the result of broad discussions that Cuban youths have held on their achievements and problems. These discussions included the participation not only of the 500,000 UJC members, but of all Cuban youths who were able to participate in the open assemblies held in each factory and learning and service centers, where youths are a strong force.

The report summarizes achievements, but also sets forth those things yet to be accomplished. It states that labor indiscipline and poor use of work days by youths has led to noncompliance with investments. It critically notes that the participation of the UJC and youths in bodies of collective administration, production assemblies, and in discussion of economic plans is frequently formal. Many youths do not feel that compliance with social service is a real commitment to our people and the revolution, which made possible their qualification.

Cuban youths have given much evidence of heroism and sacrifice in the fulfillment of internationalist missions and difficult tasks, including cutting sugarcane and shock works [trabajos de choque].

Difficulties are emphasized in order to find solutions. The discussions of the Fifth UJC Congress will make necessary clarifications and set forth an action plan to perfect achievements.

BAHAMAS

PARLIAMENT TEMPORARILY DISBANDED FOR SWEARING IN

FL201910 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 20 Mar 87

[Text] In the Bahamas, Governor Gerald Cash took the unusual step this week of temporarily disbanding the Bahamas Parliament so that a newly elected minister from the ruling party could be sworn in next Monday [23 March]. Matheu Rose, of the ruling Progressive Liberal Party, was elected to the vacant St Barnabas seat in Parliament in a special election last month.

DOMINICA

PRIME MINISTER CHARLES VIEWS CARICOM PROBLEMS

FL191943 Bridgetown CANA in English 1539 GMT 19 Mar 87

[By Sandra Baptiste]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, March 19, CANA -- Dominica's Prime Minister Eugenia Charles says there is an "unwillingness" among Caribbean community (Caricom) leaders to make the integration movement work.

She says this is one of the main reasons why the decline in intraregional trade has largely continued since the last Caricom summit.

In an interview with CANA, the Dominican prime minister was also critical of the work of the Georgetown-based Caricom Secretariat and says she will press for a review of its operations.

Charles left here last night for Brussels for talks with European Commission officials. She will be joined by St Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister James Mitchell.

Charles said that while economic difficulties in the larger Caricom member states and the collapse of a support payments facility affected the level of trade, a lack of political will was the main contributing factor.

The Secretariat has reported a 13 per cent decline in intra-regional trade for 1986, compared to an overall 3.5 percent decline for the previous year.

Charles said bilateral initiatiaves seemed to be the only way to try to get trade moving, even though the multi-lateral approach was intended under the Caricom treaty.

The Caricom Secretariat, Charles suggested, needed "to get off its heels" and concentrate its efforts on trade, industry and commerce, instead of devoting manpower and financial resources to other sectors like health, energy and shipping.

She said the Secretariat had often set "unrealistic deadlines" for implementing projects and one of its main setbacks is the failure to attract the right calibre of staff because of its location in Guyana, which has severe economic problems.

Charles said she plans to call for a review of each desk and agency of the Secretariat at July's heads of government conference.

She said while the proposed trade credit facility, targeted to be launched by July, would help to improve intraregional trade, it was not the key ingredient for resuscitating trade.

She envisaged serious difficulties in attracting the US50 million dollars from international donors for the US75 million dollar facility designed to provide pre and post-shipment financing for Caricom exporters.

I think it is impossible to expect other countries from outside, seeing what their financial restraints are, to come in and put the facility on a footing for us. In that case we must look outside the facility to see how we can engender trade and therefore perhaps let the world see that we really need the facility.

She also said Caricom member states were not fully aware of the ground rules for the new mechanism and some countries "were not prepared to go into another failure," a reference to the collapse of the Caricom Multilateral Clearing Facility (CMCF) four years ago.

"Certainly our donors are not going to be willing to come up with assistance for us if they do not see that we understand why we went wrong and that we are going to make sure that we avoid going wrong again [no end quotation mark as received]

Charles reported that trade between Dominica and Guyana has picked up since last July's summit, with Roseau purchasing sugar and other items from Georgetown, which has resumed imports of Dominican soap.

She said she was waiting until mid-year to deal with trade with Trinidad, since the new administration needed time to formulate its own policies, but she was concerned about a protectionist attitude among Trinidadian farmers.

The Dominican leader said Roseau was unable to sell much of its citrus to Barbados, despite continued efforts by her government.

Barbados has for years preferred to buy citrus from outside the Caricom area. I think the Barbados Government should investigate why this is so. It is certainly inferior to the citrus from Dominica, which can supply all the citrus Barbados requires, Charles said.

She said the current difficulties between Dominican and Antiguan hucksters stemmed from the inability of the Antiguan traders to pay cash on delivery for wholesale produce.

There must be some set-up by the Antiguan Government to assist the hucksters to be able to borrow money to begin to do it that way. Putting up the hucksters licence to 500 dollars is not the answer, Charles said.